

The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 107, No. 17

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Since 1905

12,000 students lobby for change

By Jaime Fuller
News Editor

From Feb. 28-March 2, nearly 12,000 college students converged on the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., for Power Shift 2009. The national youth climate change summit offered a chance for student leaders to exchange ideas on how to prevent global warming on both a national and local scale, and offered a plethora of panels, workshops and speakers with experts sharing their knowledge on the issues. The event culminated on Monday with a lobby day at the Capitol, the largest in our nation's history relating to climate and energy policy.

Middlebury demonstrated its fidelity to the environmental cause with a delegation of 194 students, bested by a narrow margin by the University of Vermont's group of 198 students. Middlebury was not only well represented by its youth — several faculty members made an appearance at the weekend's events including Scholar-in-Residence Bill McKibben and Luce Professor of International Environmental Economics Jon Isham.

Isham expressed his enthusiasm for the energy and scope of the conference while moderating a panel titled, "Cap Carbon & Trade: Invest? Auction? Dividend? A Conversation that Explores all the Options!"

"This is a moment to celebrate," he said. "A pinch-me moment for

many of us."

McKibben felt he had to counter some of the overpowering optimism at Power Shift with a dose of urgency and a quick reality check.

"I feel like I am being Captain Downer, but it's been my job for a long time," said McKibben, during a panel titled, "The Road to Copenhagen: The Future of International Climate Change Legislation." "The window is starting to close, not just on our species, but on a lot of other species too."

However, McKibben's realism does not stop him from being an outspoken environmental activist. He is one of the creators of the www.350.org movement and he helped organize the mass civil disobedience march at the Capitol Power Plant on March 2, where activists occupied all gates to the government-owned coal-fired power plant.

The panels and workshops ca-

SEE YOUNG ACTIVISTS, PAGE 3



Cloe Shasha

A record number of Middlebury students flocked to the rally in D.C.

Distrust leads to H.C. vote

By Hilary Hall
Staff Writer

In a report that could significantly change Middlebury's entire academic climate, the Honor Code Review Committee (HCRC) suggested several changes be made to the Honor Code, including the removal of the current ban on faculty presence during exams. The full report includes nine specific amendments, three of which require a student vote as they involve changes to the student constitution. Two of these three are simple revisions meant to make the Honor Code concurrent with the handbook, but the first and likely most controversial suggestion asks for removal of the language that prohibits faculty in the exam room.

The Honor Code currently forbids faculty members from sitting in on exams unless the Academic Judicial Board has specifically granted them permission to do so. It puts the onus on students to report cheating; if they do not want proctors, they must be willing to monitor themselves and each other. The report, however, suggests that students no longer want or take advantage of this responsibility.

"It is clear from the feedback ... students and faculty are in agreement that students not only are not reporting each other, but also that they do not wish to be expected to report each other," the report stated.

Citing extensive statistical research, the report presents a compelling case for the necessity of this change. In Acting Dean of the College Gus Jordan's 1998 study, he found

SEE HONOR CODE, PAGE 2

Liberal dining may disappear

By Cloe Shasha
Staff Writer

Since the announcement of the budget cuts at the end of Winter Term, speculation about the implementation of a meal plan has become a talking point on campus. But according to Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette, the discus-

sion among faculty and staff is at an early, non-definitive stage. No specifics have been established about the type of meal plan Middlebury might develop.

"We are discussing possibilities as we should in this economic climate," Biette said. "We need to look at every way we do business and contain costs while providing quality meals within a budget. The meal plan discussion falls within these parameters."

But Biette emphasized that changes in the College's dining

system will probably not be implemented in the next year — if at all — because this type of change would require a long planning process.

Students who heard rumors about a meal plan felt that it would have a major impact on the College.

"Having no meal plan makes us eat more healthfully," said Brad Becker-Parton '11. "It's nice to be able to come in at 5 p.m., get a bowl of soup, and then come in later to eat more, rather than stuffing our plates in one

SEE FUTURE, PAGE 3

Local hot spots still faring well

By Anna Briggs
Staff Writer

The economic downturn is taking its toll on the town of Middlebury, but has been hitting some businesses harder than others. Student spending off-campus has remained strong at some local hot spots, but has come to a relative stand-still at less fortunate locations.

"I'm aware of [the recession] with all the empty shop windows in town as stores close, and it makes me more conscious of what I'm spending money on," says Jennifer Ridder '09.

While trends in particular business sectors have played into the success of some establishments — businesses in food service have had stronger sales than those selling consumer goods — what seems to be the biggest factor in success with the student demographic is a close relationship with the College.

John Melanson, owner of Carol's Hungry Mind Café, has seen the café's business doing well despite the recession. In fact, on a day-to-day



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

Despite economic strains, students continue to favor the local flavors.

basis, the café is doing better than in previous years.

"Individually, spending is up," remarked Melanson. He attributes the café's success to two factors: a close relationship with the students of the College, and to Adam, the café's resident baker, who Melanson says has been "baking better things."

"I like to think [the students] like to support me," says Melanson. "I do make friends with students, and I hire students," and it seems that students of the College reciprocate the appreciation Melanson has for them.

SEE TOWN, PAGE 4



Allie Needham

MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM DOMINATES NESCAC

The Panthers beat out Amherst 77-68 in the NESCAC finals on March 1, capturing the championship title before a record turnout of fans.

this week



Mountains beyond Midd
Community members and students alike gather to hear global health leader Paul Farmer speak, page 12



The price of pleasure
Robert Jensen delivers "men only" talk about pornography and pop culture, page 5

Meet the candidates
Look inside to see who's running before placing your vote, page 4





overseas briefing

by **Caleigh Waldman '10**

SEA SEMESTER — Awoken at 2:30 a.m. with a rustling of my bunk curtains and a whispered debriefing of the wind and sea conditions, I groggily throw on my shoes, grab my flashlight and a mug of coffee as I stumble up on deck for dawn watch. The next four hours will be comprised of sail handling, time at the helm, looking out for other ships from the bow and helping the science team do some deployments and data processing. Then right about at 6 a.m. is when the star frenzy begins — everyone on deck grabs a sextant and points it in the direction of some of the brightest navigational stars in the sky, bringing in the horizon with this same contraption used by mariners hundreds of years ago, and recording the degree readings that we would later use to pinpoint our exact location on the globe. I live for these 15 minutes or so when the sky is becoming light enough so that you can just make out the horizon, but still dark enough that the brightest stars are visible.

Having been landlocked my entire life, living in Kentucky and going to school in Vermont, I had no experience sailing before this past fall. My six weeks aboard the *Robert C Seamans*, a 134-foot brigantine sailing vessel, opened my eyes to many things I would not have imagined.

A landless horizon, for one. The first week aboard the ship I was totally land sick, desperate for just a line of earth on the horizon, yet by the end of the six weeks the sight of land made my heart sink, an unwelcome interruption to our journey across a water world.

The importance of a good wakeup. The tone of your day can amazingly be set by the person who wakes you up at some ungodly hour in the night for your next watch. The soothing happy wakeups were in great demand (especially that of our Irish shipmate, her accent just made you happy about getting up and cuddling with a mug of tea), while the bumbling shipmate caught in your bunk curtains barking an abrasive "it's 2:30, get up" made you bolt upright, banging your head in the process and inciting a strong desire to hurl anything heavy and hard in his/her direction.

How to speak the seafaring language. Sheets and halyards and clews and stays'ls and gybing and tacking and heaving to. And don't forget galleys and heads and soles.

The preferred bird removal tactic: fire hose. There was some crafty fashioning of a giant slingshot made out of science equipment used to shoot rotten limes at the birds aloft, as well as a potato gun propelled by the engineers' air compressor. The fire hose method was the most successful, but still took days to rid the ship of them.

The greatest extremes of emotion I have experienced. The highest highs but also sometimes the lowest lows. The long, irregular days, the hard work, the close relationships formed.

And this semester was all about experience. Everything we learned was by doing. And though I'm undoubtedly still a landlubber, this experience incited in me a longing to be out on the water, a place I have no doubt I will return someday.

Athletics feel pinch of recession

By **Katie Siegner**
STAFF WRITER

The effects of the recent financial cuts announced by the administration have been felt by ever-expanding sectors of the College, and athletics has not been exempt. In light of the rapid changes, it is difficult for students to foresee how the budget cuts will affect them, and information sharing has been limited. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz explained this in a recent e-mail, writing, "We must act quickly to address the budget deficits that are projected to develop during the next two years as a result of the deteriorating financial markets and the College's reduced wealth."

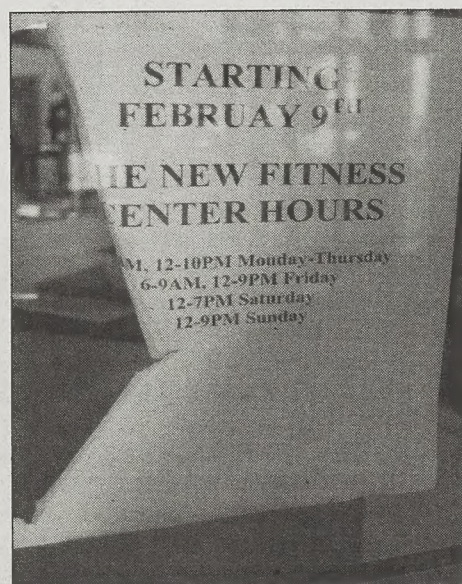
The athletic facilities will soon see a number of changes.

"Fitness Center hours have been reduced from being open 16 hours a day to 13 hours a day," Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton wrote in an e-mail, and "several staff positions have been frozen." Furthermore, plans to replace old equipment over the next couple of years "have been put on hold," which means that athletes visiting the fitness center on crowded weekday afternoons will have to resign themselves to the difficulty of finding a functioning treadmill that isn't already in use.

"I've taken to running around the hockey rink when there are no available treadmills," said Francie Alexandre '12.

In keeping with the recent climate of fiscal restraint, Norton also wrote, "a five percent cut was made in discretionary spending in the operating budget."

To ensure transparency and participation in the budget decisions, Director of Athletics Erin Quinn formed the Athletic Budget Over-



Brooke Beatt

Reduced hours at the gym start immediately.

sight Committee (ABOC) which consists of staff, coaches and students.

"Our purpose is to advise the Athletic Director on possible cost-saving measures in our department and to determine 'best practices' for the department with cost savings in mind," said Committee Chair and Women's Lacrosse coach Missy Foote.

The committee has sparked many discussions regarding the financial problems the athletics department is facing and the possible responses. As a result, Quinn said, "members of the department have been willing to be flexible and adjust to the changing times."

Since its formation, the ABOC has been examining the department's expenditures, large and small. As student member Lindsay

McBride '09 said, they have been looking for "ways to save money without greatly affecting the students' experience. Every \$100 here and \$200 there adds up to a significant amount." The ABOC has also been conscientious in ensuring that the cuts do not disproportionately affect certain athletes.

"We have tried to concentrate equally on budgets for varsity teams, club and intramural teams and general athletic services," said McBride.

Foote said that sports teams will also be affected by the tightening of the College's budget. Sports teams at the College have been "level funded" for the past several years, meaning that their budgets remain constant even if prices rise. Because of this, Norton said, they "did not cut team budgets across the board." However, the luncheon portion of teams' senior banquets will be eliminated and their uniform budget will be reduced, according to Foote.

This is occurring within NESCAC-wide changes designed by the conference's athletic directors. For example, changes in travel policies "may include limitations on travel squads, may replace some overnight trips with same day trips and may contain other measures," said Foote. Student athletes can expect noticeable impacts when the new NESCAC policies are finalized.

The administration has made efforts to make the process open to student and faculty input, as can be seen from the establishment of the ABOC. The committee is dedicated to implementing "low-impact cuts" according to McBride, and thus reducing expenses without significantly altering students' athletic experiences.

Honor Code alterations require student approval

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that 31 percent of the students surveyed admitted to cheating on at least one paper or exam, just in the semester prior to the survey. Fifty-five percent of these students said that they had violated the Honor Code in some way during the semester. More recently, a 2008 survey found that 54 percent of the students studied had seen academic dishonesty in some form; 97 percent of these students did not report it.

"The data suggests that most students don't cheat, most of the time," said Jordan. "But there are some students who do cheat a lot. Why should they get a free ride through the institution?"

While Middlebury's statistics are lower than those reported at other colleges across the nation, the need for some kind of change is nonetheless apparent, according to HCRC members.

"Faculty must have confidence in the integrity of their assessment process," wrote Associate Dean of the College and HCRC chair Karen Guttentag, in an e-mail. "Many faculty members do: this is reflected in the wide utilization of take-home and self-scheduled exams, and by feedback from professors who say they would not choose to proctor exams if it were permitted. Other professors are less confident, either because their field makes cheating particularly easy, or because of concerns about the honesty of particular students. In these cases, failing to

allow a professor to administer an assessment process in which they have confidence requires them to endorse exam outcomes they may not actually believe in."

The HCRC's recommendation, which only suggests the removal of language, not the addition of any more specific rules, offers a flexible answer to the problem. Proctoring exams would become a choice for faculty, depending on whether they believed their presence was necessary to ensure the quality of students' work.

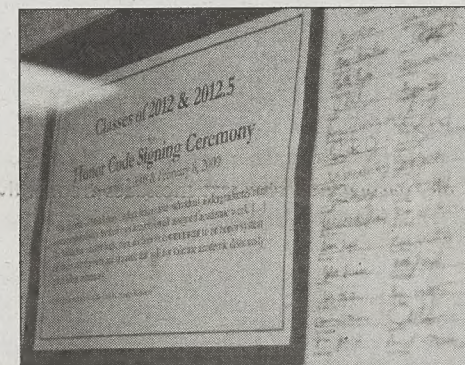
"It doesn't suggest that teachers no longer trust students," said Jordan. "It protects the integrity of the exam as well as students who are doing the work. Those students are being cheated, and the value of their work is being cheapened."

In order for the proposals to pass, two-thirds of the student body must participate in a vote, and two-thirds of those who vote must approve. If students do vote them in, the faculty will then vote in May.

Such a change will likely spur a wide variety in student reactions, from those who feel their honesty is being questioned, to those who are grateful to have the burden of self-monitoring lifted, to those who are indifferent.

"I do like the Honor Code as it is now, but I wouldn't mind if professors were there to proctor our exams," said Ian Cameron '11.

"If you aren't cheating, it shouldn't make a



Sophia Perlman

Faculty questions sincerity behind signatures. difference if professors are there or not," agreed Chloe Tabah '11.

In many ways, the value of student work at Middlebury hangs in the balance with this vote. Should students continue to believe that they can trust all of their fellow community members, or accept the statistics that say otherwise?

"I urge community members not only to read the report carefully, but to review the feedback that led to these recommendations," Guttentag said. "It is quite powerful to hear the wide range of perceptions and concerns that students and faculty have shared about this issue: some students and faculty members who have never directly observed violations of the Honor Code are profoundly confident in its success, while others who routinely observe cheating — or admit to cheating themselves — consider it 'a sham.'"

The SGA brings the proposed changes to student vote on March 4. The voting process will last until March 14 to encourage maximum participation. The entire report is available online via the Middlebury Web site.

public safety log

February 21 - March 5, 2009

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/24/2009	11:05 p.m.	Property confiscated	Stop sign	82 Adirondack	Referred to Commons Dean and Dean of the College
2/28/2009	12:42 a.m.	Fire safety violation	Smoking	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
2/28/2009	12:42 a.m.	Drug violation	Possession	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
3/1/2009	3:04 a.m.	Vandalism	Kitchen	Fletcher House	Referred to Dean of College and Commons Dean
3/1/2009	unknown	Property stolen	Signs	Atwater Hall B	No suspects
3/1/2009	1:15 a.m.	Disrespect of College official	Vandalism/window pushed out	Prescott House	Referred to Dean of College and Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 24 alcohol citations between Feb. 21, 2009 and March 5, 2009.

Young activists overrun capital

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tered to people interested in the many facets of the climate change movement, and even offered options that focused on broader social justice issues. Session tracks included campus organizing, skills training, new media, international, green jobs and the economy dismantling oppression, faith and spirituality, as well as many others.

Prominent speakers such as Van Jones, Adam Gardner and Majora Carter were featured in the nighttime program, and were often met with standing ovations and thunderous applause. President Barack Obama's role in the quest for climate change policy was an unmistakable theme of the conference, and many of the speakers and panels focused, or at least mentioned, the new administration.

"We are in the Obama era," said Carter in her keynote address on Friday night. "I have to tell you its not only Obama the president, but Obama the acronym. Obama is an acronym for 'Officially Behaving as Magnificent Americans.'"

The high level of organizing and thought put into the Power Shift national summit can be seen on a local level in the amount of planning required to transport and house 194 Middlebury students 500 miles from campus. Two buses, powered by biodiesel, transported most of the students to and from the conference, and housing was mostly decentralized, with native students offering their homes to friends and others crashing with friends of the family or anybody willing to offer a floor to a Middlebury student.

The aura of youth and change pervaded Power Shift this year, and was especially apparent in the event's reliance on new media and technology to communicate with participants and to share what was occurring at the conference with the rest of the world. In order to know where panels and workshops were being held and to receive updates on changes to the schedule, participants sent text messages frequently throughout the weekend. Speakers, like Repre-

sentative Edward Markey (D-Mass.) and former mayor of Salt Lake City Rocky Anderson, even called for students to text during their speeches, and the organizers of Power Shift told participants to tag their photos and videos on YouTube and Flickr so they could use participant-generated content for a slide show. Middlebury students also were involved in documenting the conference; Mori Rothman '11 filmed much of the weekend, and plans on posting his video on YouTube sometime next week.

All of the activity on Saturday and Sunday was in preparation for Lobby Day on Monday, where around 5,000 activists overtook the Capitol and pushed their representatives to move quickly to pass climate change legislation. However, the blizzard that struck D.C. on Monday, while not daunting for the energized youth, did prevent several well-known speakers in national government, such as Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Markey, from attending. According to Sarah Simonds '11, this did not stop the visit to the Capitol from being an inspiring event.

"We managed to visit representatives from all 50 states, and there were 12 to 50 people at each meeting," she said. "You couldn't walk down the hallways without seeing groups of young people in green hard hats."

An oft-repeated theme at the conference was that the majority of the action taken to prevent global warming would take place not at

the conference center or lobby day, but at a local level when participants returned back to their respective campuses. The Middlebury attendees who are also active members of the Sunday Night Group (SNG), the largest environmental group on campus, were positive that they would be able to transform the energy and ideas at the conference into tangible change back on campus.

It's awesome to see so many inspired young leaders in the same place for the same reason," said Nathan Blumenshine '09.5. "Knowing we have 10 percent of the student body that is willing to travel, listen and change their habits for the weekend gives me hope that we can reach the whole campus instead of just SNG."

Many of the Power Shift participants who have never been involved with SNG have already expressed interest to use what they learned in D.C. to help accomplish things in Vermont.

"I always have been interested in the environment ... but am always busy and never have time to really do anything on campus," said Laura Budd '11. "I heard about Power Shift and thought it was a great way to learn things and get involved. I definitely plan to attend SNG meetings in the future."

SNG plans to have a post-Power Shift meeting this week for all 194 students to preserve the momentum started this weekend and to make sure environmental activism was not a one-time deal for the participants.



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

SENIORS CELEBRATE 100 DAY MARK ON FEB. 29

The McCullough Social Space played host to the Blackout, Blacklight party on Saturday.

SGAupdate

by Aseem Mulji, Staff Writer

Despite the turbulence brought on by former president Bobby Joe Smith's '09 resignation, the Student Government Association (SGA) pushed through its agenda on March 1, displaying a collective desire for a seamless transition into the rest of the spring semester.

The meeting began with a discussion with Acting Dean of the College Gus Jordan about the proposed Honor Code changes unveiled last week.

Senior Senator Roger Perreault expressed his disappointment in the language of the third constitutional change proposed by the Honor Code Review Committee (HCRC). The amendment changed Article III c. to read "alleged violations [of the Honor Code] will be handled according to the academic disciplinary policies of the current Middlebury College Handbook."

This change, explained Perreault, "dilutes the student voice in [determining] what the judicial process is." He argued that the amendment removes any specific language concerning the judicial review process from the constitution (a student-ratified document) and replaces it with a sort of "hyperlink" to the College Handbook (a faculty-ratified document).

Jordan flatly disagreed with Perreault's reading of the amendment and assured the SGA that the intent of the language is

merely efficiency. According to HCRC, the language of the new clause allows for minor structural changes to the judicial process. In revising the College Handbook, faculty can make quick changes to the judicial process as needed. He argued that students are kept involved via the Community Council.

Perreault, not swayed, said that he would urge his peers to vote against this suggested amendment.

Following a full 40-minute deliberation on the Honor Code Review, the SGA moved on to discuss a bill sponsored by Senior Senators Katie Hylas and Molley Kaiyoorawongs which makes class evaluations available to students. In order to respect the privacy of faculty members and to make class evaluations more accessible, Hylas and Kaiyoorawongs proposed that as a part of the evaluation process, students respond to a separate set of questions to be viewed by peers online. www.middkid.com, they said, is unused and ineffective.

The SGA was in full support and approved the bill unanimously.

Correction

The amount of the 2009-2010 academic year comprehensive fee recommended by the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee was not \$51,622 as *The Campus* mistakenly implied last week in a headline. The committee recommended raising the fee to \$50,783. *The Campus* regrets the error.

college shorts

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

Financial crisis forces states, families to cut

State universities across the country are expecting record-breaking application numbers this spring due to the precarious financial situation facing many families. However, the high number of qualified applicants makes admissions decisions much harder.

SUNY New Paltz, which had an unprecedented 24 percent of accepted students enrolling, must now send out 1,000 fewer acceptance letters this year.

As students flock to the SUNY system because of its affordability, the state has had to make economic concessions of its own, cutting \$210 million from its \$1.4 billion annual state appropriation for four-year schools.

"That's the conundrum," said Megan Galbraith, a spokeswoman for SUNY, the largest public university system under a single governing board in the United States. "There's increased demand for what SUNY has to offer in this economy. But with this budget, there will be challenges meeting that demand."

— The New York Times

Students expect "A" despite minimal effort

A recent study published in the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* shows that students feel entitled for higher grades simply for attending class and doing the required reading.

Forty percent of the 800 students surveyed felt they deserved a B for completing a course's required reading, and a third thought they should get a B for showing up to class. The study was conducted by University of California-Irvine professor Ellen Greenberger, who used confidential self-report questionnaires to examine the attitudes of two groups of students at a southern California university.

Greenberg thought that this mindset of entitlement may be exacerbated by Web sites where students rate professors on their grading styles.

"I never look at these sites," she said in an e-mail. "But I'm well aware that many students shop for easy courses or professors who give mainly As, etc., or drop courses midstream that they are not doing well in. It follows that grades will 'go higher' and that some students will be chagrined when their expectations for a good grade for modest effort aren't met."

— The Daily Texan

College news travels to Web at slower pace

As the nation's biggest newspapers are reassessing the role of print media in today's Internet-reliant culture, college newspapers around the country are debating their format as well.

Some colleges are using their need to cut print production in a positive way by expanding content online and embracing blogs, podcasts and videos as a new way to get the news out on campus. Stephen Dockery, editor of *The Daily Orange* at Syracuse University, said that their editing board's decision to have four print editions and one online-only paper per week has turned out to be a productive change.

"It's turned out to be a great thing," Dockery said. "It's giving people experience in new media."

"The high percentage of students who still read their campus daily in print, though, speaks to why cuts at college newspapers have come more slowly than at their professional counterparts," said Chrissy Beck, advertising director of *The Duke Chronicle*.

— The Duke Chronicle

Future of meal plan undecided

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

go. We might lose that healthy attitude with a meal plan."

Ken Grinde '11 worked at the admissions office in the fall and noticed that prospective students are drawn to Middlebury's current dining system.

"In the admissions office kids were really turned on by the idea that our dining halls are open," said Grinde. "They thought it was so cool."

Hillary Gerardi '09 thinks that the social qualities of the dining halls would change with a meal plan.

"The dining halls are major social spaces on campus right now," she said. "Right now, people can eat, go to class, come back, and find their friends still there. A meal plan would make dining hall culture less relaxed."

Some students believe that a meal plan could help the College save money and food.

"I think a meal plan would be great," said Angela Evancie '09. "It would encourage people to waste less food. In fact, if there was a penalty for wasting food with our current dining system, we would already save a lot."

Andrew Powers '11 suggested another way to save money other than with a meal plan.

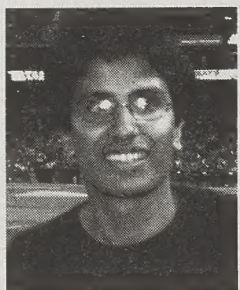
"If we want to reduce our waste and save more money, we should have some visual evidence of the amount of food that we waste," he said. "If the College showed the students the amount of food that is regularly squandered, I think it might have an effect on peoples' tendency to waste. But a meal plan would change the atmosphere of our dining halls — they would be more like restaurants and less personal."

SGA *meet the candidates* Mid-Year Elections

Tik Root '12

To the Students of Middlebury College,

I am running for President for two very basic, yet important reasons: Firstly, I believe that my term in the SGA as a senator allowed me to see both the potential and the pitfalls of the organization. Yet, I have not been filled with the cynicism against the power of change that I hear from many around me. As a first-year, I would be able to see and follow change for the next four years. I have the unique position of having experienced the College from three different angles. I grew up in Middlebury and was and always will be a "townie." Both my parents are professors here, and my mom worked as a staff member for 25 years, so I've been blessed to see the College through the eyes of both the faculty and staff. Of course, I am currently a student here. The combination of these three perspectives will allow me to successfully and efficiently navigate the competing interests and bureaucracy that is Middlebury College.



Courtesy

My presidential philosophy rests on the premise that the SGA needs to undergo a massive reevaluation of its structure, its purpose and its goals. To do this, all but the most important topics must be put on the back burner. I would start this reevaluation process by immediately holding a meeting with student leaders. Hopefully, this meeting would start the desperately needed debate on students' role in Middlebury's decision making process. After this meeting, I would urge legislation that will begin to move the SGA toward becoming a more effective organization.

There are several initiatives that I believe are important to tackle, alongside the SGA's restructuring. I plan to have the SGA members sign confidentiality agreements, which would allow them to have closed meetings where the administration could candidly discuss sensitive issues. I also plan on getting the SGA Web site up and running as soon as possible, so that the students have a way to debate issues. I will also continue to pursue Bobby Joe's work on creating a multi-purpose access card. As president, I also have the honor of sitting on the Budget Oversight Committee. One of my major initiatives would be to convince the committee to authorize bi-weekly reports to the student body. This would give students the tools they need in order to have an educated two-way discussion with the administration.

I will be the first to admit that my opponent has more experience than I. But, over the last few terms, what has experience brought the school? I will, for the remainder of the year, maintain the current Cabinet and Officers, unless I feel a pressing need not to. When I get to choose my own cabinet, it will be a decision I will not take lightly. The people in my cabinet will be the "shakers and movers" of the campus, and together with the senate they will be a forceful vehicle for change. By electing a first-year you are voting not only for the present, but for the future as well and the future is now.

Regardless of outcome, thank you in advance for your continued support.

Tik Root '12

In light of Bobby Joe Smith III '09's resignation as Student Government Association (SGA) president last week, students will choose a successor in today's mid-term election to fill three vacant Senate seats. Candidates Hiba Fakhoury '09 and Tik Root '12 both insist that they are most qualified to navigate the SGA through this period of economic hardship and respond to student demands for increased transparency. Be sure to cast your vote and make your opinion count.

Hiba Fakhoury '09

Fellow students,

I was very fortunate this year to have served as the SGA's chief of staff. While many students may not be familiar with the organization, I can assure you that in the past year I met the most passionate and hardworking students who strive to make Middlebury a better place every day. SGA members try their best, as a team, to represent the student body as a whole. They work hard to provide daily newspapers, ACTR shuttles to the Snow Bowl and many other services free-of-charge to accommodate the needs of the student body.



Courtesy

This spring, as a senior who has loved Middlebury and been extremely involved here, I am running for President of the SGA for the remainder of the year. As you all know, our campus has been tremendously affected by the recent economic crisis, and unfortunately many big decisions had to be made without significant input from the student body. In the limited time left, and if elected as President, I want to cooperate with senators and cabinet members of the SGA to increase transparency, and allow students to express their opinion and to have a say in what will directly influence their Middlebury experience.

I am sure that a lot of you would agree when I express my frustration with the long lines at the dining hall, the continuous worry about school work, and the lack of communication between members of the student body, and between students and the administration. I will be realistic and admit to you that I will try my best to work on these issues, but we need more than a couple of months, or a few people for our views to be heard. As President of the SGA, I would work my hardest to involve you in the process. To provide the venue for all students to say how much they enjoyed their MOO experience and to collectively come up with a more cost efficient alternative. We are after all, a group of diverse, intelligent, creative, and dedicated students, and it is essential that our input significantly affects the Middlebury that we all care about.

I thank you all in advance for your support and I hope you will take the time someday to e-mail sga@middlebury.edu and tell us about what matters the most to you, and what you would like to see changed.

Sincerely,

Hiba Fakhoury '09

Town retailers suffer more than restaurants

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We feel very fortunate to maintain a strong level of sales," said Holmes Jacobs, manager of Two Brothers Tavern. Two Brothers, a student favorite for its restaurant and bar, has also had strong business in the face of national economic hardship. Jacobs attributed this to the hard-working management staff constantly seeking "new, fun reasons to come in the door."

Two Brothers seems to have had such success in large part due to its intimate relationship with the College and its promotional activity to draw in students. "We have a whole host of new promotions," said Jacobs, including an early bird special, half-price flat breads, \$5 appetizers and a discount for ID-bearing Middlebury students.

"We appreciate the relationship with the College, and we look forward to strengthening that bond," said Jacobs.

The College's budget cuts may result in increased business in town, as students venture off campus for the wider range of goods available.

"Now that the College has laid off even more food service staff, the downtown food operations may actually gain some business," wrote Sarah Wood, co-owner of Otter Creek

Bakery, in an e-mail.

While consumer spending may be decreasing on a national level, Wood remarked that "what is important to remember is that people will still need to eat and as long as a really good product and service is consistently provided we will weather the storm."

While students have continued to spend at these particular off-campus favorites, even in the food service sector other businesses have been struggling. Steve's Park Diner has seen a serious decline in the number of student customers, and manager Sarah Provoncha remarked, "It's definitely not like it was a year or two ago."

Provoncha did note that there were less "out-of-towners" coming in to eat, but more significant was the overall decline in student customers: "I really haven't seen a lot of College students coming down." Provoncha said there was definitely a decline in College business, but that she had high hopes for increased business this past weekend during Winter Carnival.

When asked whether or not Steve's Park Diner was working on any promotional initiatives to revive business with students from the College, Provoncha said, "I think we're just going to see what happens." The decreased sales have resulted in a tighter budget, and the Diner can't spend beyond its necessary expenses.

"We just don't have the money for adver-

tisement right now," said Provoncha. "We're going to hang in there with what we've got."

With shops like Glass Bead Game going out of business, it seems apparent that the most negatively affected establishments are those selling consumer goods. David Disque of Forth 'N Goal said that the shop has reduced inventories in anticipation of decreased sales in the future. Disque acknowledged the recession as a significant concern, one that could have serious consequences for the town in the future.

"As to whether it's reality in Middlebury yet, I do not know," said Disque. "I think it's too early to tell."

Though Disque said that this January and February have not been atypical, he is anticipating changes in the future.

"The big effort of buying locally and of stimulating the local economy is playing into this also," he said.

According to Disque, the College's budget cutbacks are having an impact on business with the shop. Coaches, who purchase goods from the store regularly, formerly without great attention to price, are now acting more frugally and are "taking a more conservative approach," said Disque.

The town's Winter Carnival, which took place the same weekend as the College's, was held to "stimulate and build a local awareness"

with the hopes of reviving some of the business in town. In regards to declining sales to students, Disque said, "I don't see the trend quite yet," but he is taking measures to brace himself for the coming months.

A bleaker few months could be ahead of us, but for now students are still contributing substantially to the local economy.

"As much as the recession has made me conscious of what I spend, I think it's very important to support local businesses as they are also feeling the crunch," said Reisa Bloch '09.

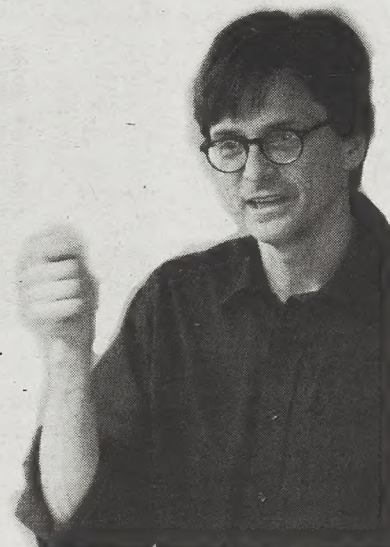
"I spend more money off campus than I do on campus," said Ken Grinde '11. "I work in town, so I end up buying things while I'm there."

Though the College does have on-campus food and convenience goods options with the Grille and Midd Xpress, inventories are limited, so to purchase some items students need to venture into town.

"I am definitely more conscious in general about where my spending money goes, which here means that I'm eating out in town less frequently than I might have two years ago," said Sasha Garfield '09.5. How the continuing economic troubles will manifest themselves in the town of Middlebury remains to be seen, but sustained student spending off campus will keep businesses alive in the meantime.

How does your garden grow?

Robert Jensen talks of pornography's role in pop culture —
500 years after Bosch brought us to the Garden of Earthly Delights



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Robert Jensen, professor at the University of Texas at Austin, spoke Feb. 28 at the Ilsley Library on the "Pornification of Pop Culture." Attendees discussed media and pornography.

By Lea Calderon-Guthe
STAFF WRITER

To see Robert Jensen standing behind the wooden podium at the front of Ilsley Public Library's basement meeting room, no one would have guessed that this slight, bespectacled and amiable man, an associate professor at the University of Texas at Austin's School of Journalism, would condemn the direction of today's society and paint a picture of the end of the world.

But on Feb. 28, as the 15 or so audience members gasped in shock or nodded in righteous agreement, Jensen graphically described the state of pornography and used it as a measure of our society's ills. He began very simply.

"Pornography is what the end of the world looks like," Jensen said.

"If you look at pornography honestly, what you will see is a vision of a set of values, values rooted in hierarchical systems around gender, around race and around an economic system that I think are fundamentally unjust and unsustainable.

If you look at especially the direction pornography is going and is likely to continue, what you see is a very disturbing picture about what the end of these systems looks like. And it ain't pretty."

The Addison County Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence organized Jensen's talk, titled "The Pornification of Pop Culture," and most of the audience members were women from domestic violence and child abuse prevention programs. Jensen's approach to pornography elicited many nods and knowing looks in these women as he stressed again and again his fundamental theory of pornography: the eroticized subordination and domination of women. He supported this theory with an

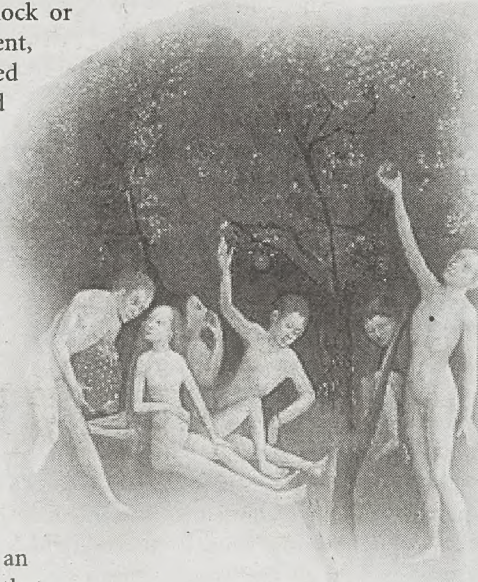
explicit depiction of the evolution of the sexual script in pornographic films — these films, generally of heterosexual intercourse produced for a target audience of primarily heterosexual white men, are what Jensen meant when he referred to pornography.

When pornographic films first became social

ly acceptable in the '50s and '60s, they featured primarily vaginal intercourse between a man and a woman. By the '80s and early '90s, anal sex was a wildly popular feature, and in today's pornography Jensen cited acts known as double penetration, gagging and a-- to mouth as common elements.

Why the change in the sexual script? Jensen said an executive in the porn industry explained it to him the best when asked about the move to anal sex in the '80s.

"Anal sex is not part of the regular sexual preference of most straight women," Jensen said. "[The porn executive] said, 'Men know this.' He said, 'When men get pissed



SEE PORNOGRAPHY, PAGE 6



Almost New Orleans
The first Mardi Gras celebration at the Town Hall Theater brings color to town, page 6.

Down in the basement
Alpine Shop boasts unique cast of characters, page 7.

Art in the Snow
Brandon hosts monthly festival to spotlight local artists, page 7.



town/gown



by Grady Ross

If you ever watch infomercials you'll notice a trend among consumers: people love things they can do at home. Thanks to credit cards and paid programming you can sculpt firm abs, create the hottest celebrity hairstyles, make restaurant-quality pasta, remove dents from your car and — my personal favorite — repair sagging earlobes, all in the privacy of your own home.

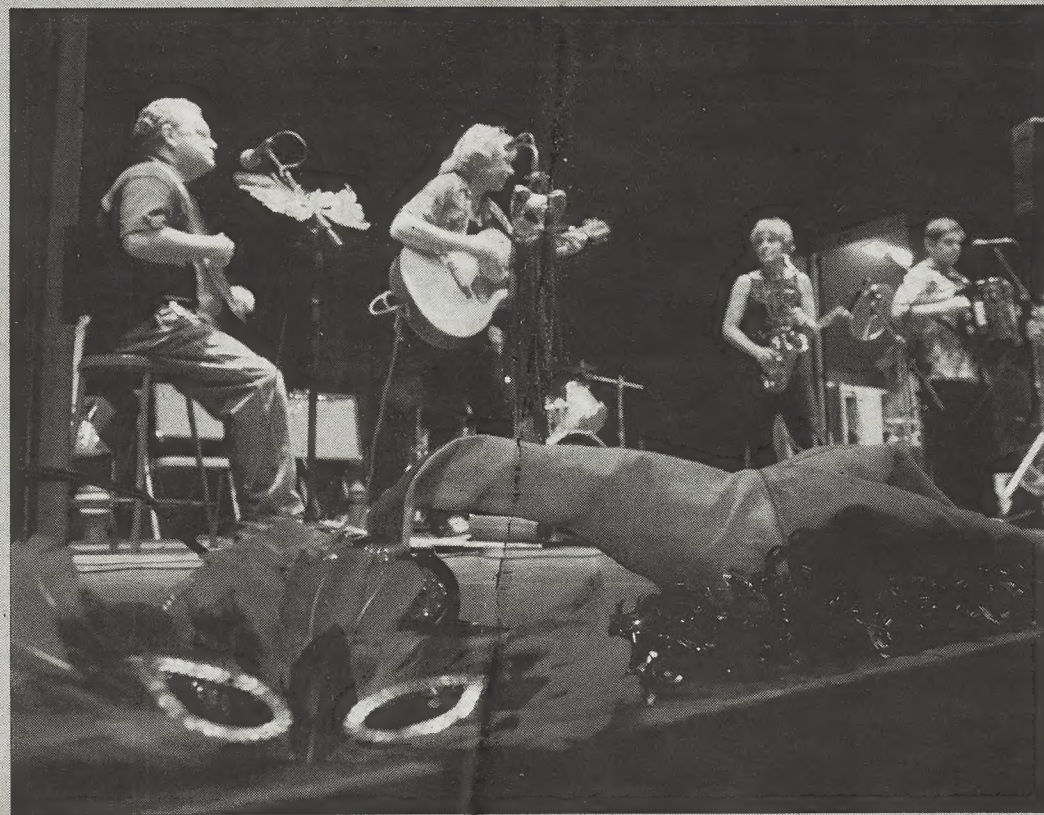
But while the *EarLift* is available to a universal audience, I find myself with a unique at-home opportunity. Middlebury College has offered me the chance to shift my paradigm, mature my beliefs and interact with diverse and cultured people, all without leaving my home (and all for the low, low price of \$48,830 — if I call now). This dawned on me over dinner several weeks ago when a friend was reflecting on a recent change of opinion. She recalled that in the traditional Southeast Asian environment in which she had been raised, she had been wary of homosexuality. However, upon coming to Middlebury, where she was confronted with a new culture of acceptance, this attitude began to change. As I listened to her, it occurred to me that I was in an exceptional position: I see the same buildings daily that I encountered in my pre-college life. I shop at the same stores. I, unfortunately, experience the same weather. And yet, my life now is defined by a very different culture.

Middlebury College is not *really* a part of Middlebury, Vt. How many of you, for example, have ever been mud-boggin'? Oh, the joys of driving an old pick-up truck through a water-logged pasture on a beautiful spring day. Or who has tapped maple trees? Pancakes taste so much better drenched in syrup that you carried from tree to sugar house when it was still unrecognizable as Vermonters' liquid gold. And who among you has gone fencing? I'm not talking about two people foiling in plastrons: there is something old-fashioned and wonderful about walking miles of fence line to repair the spots where the heifers got out. Put away all of the flannel and Timberlands you Green Mountain masqueraders: you ain't seen nothin' yet.

I'm not trying to make Vermonters out to be hicks (I am one, after all). But in a state where cows outnumber people, there are elements that are lost on a campus that boasts representation from 49 states and 36 countries, just in the Class of 2012.

Recently, at a conference, an activity leader instructed everyone to stand if they felt that their values had changed since enrolling in college. I stood. I live eight miles from the house I grew up in, and I stood. And as I did I realized that a community or a culture does not consist of the physical environment or the infrastructure as much as it is made up of its people. And the people on campus create a reality unlike any I have ever known. When would I have previously talked with a woman who was trained to ski for the Soviet army? Conversated with a peer who studied in China for the Olympic martial arts team? Traded stories with a former member of Cirque du Soleil? I am a different person for this: I have a new conception of education, a different outlook on certain issues and an appreciation for things I once took for granted.

But wait! There's more...



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

MASKS, BEADS AND SHENANIGANS: MARDI GRAS AT THE TOWN HALL THEATER

On Tuesday, Feb. 24, "the best party outside New Orleans" kicked off with a performance by the zydeco band Mango Jam. Cajun food was served as the crowning of the festival King and Queen and costume contest completed the pre-Lent celebration.

Lecture outlines subjugation of women

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

off at women, they think to themselves, 'Boy, I'd like to f--- you in the a--' as payback. But most men are not in situations where they can do it, so they like to watch it done to women on the screen."

The brutality reflected in this response is the same motivation Jensen pointed to behind the more recent pornographic evolutions.

He placed his theory in line with feminist critiques of pornography — that pornography itself is not a bad thing, but that the way in which it is made and the attitude it reflects towards women are horribly damaging to both women and society.

"We could have had pornographic scripts that were focused on egalitarian sexuality with mutual pleasure, with lots of foreplay and expressions of intimacy and caring," Jensen said. "It didn't happen."

Melissa Deas of the Domestic Abuse Education Program, which works with men who commit acts of violence towards women or children, raised the issue of porn's psychological effects on men.

"Men objectify themselves as well as they objectify women," Deas said. "We need to go deeper into that and think about teaching men to view themselves as sacred and their sexuality as sacred and precious."

Jensen acknowledged this idea, but not to the extent Deas wanted. She called for social reform at the ground level in teaching men that their bodies are sacred life-givers just as women are taught that their bodies are sacred vessels for life.

But Jensen only went as far as recognizing the objectification of men.

"[Men] are trained to take all of the complexity that comes with being human and reduce it to this task of obtaining sexual pleasure," Jensen said. "In a patriarchal soci-

ety, that's how sex is most commonly defined for men."

According to Jensen, in pornography, everybody loses their humanity, but the consequences remain considerably more dire for women than for men.

and it does so ever more effectively as it infiltrates pop culture in more seemingly innocuous realms.

"You can see the paradox I'm raising," Jensen said. "In a civilized society, how is it that you can have a mass media that becomes more and more accepted at the same time it is becoming more and more cruel and degrading to women and more and more overtly racist?"

At the culmination of his talk, Jensen summed up his characterization of pornography as industrially produced and marketed upon the subjugation of women in a sexual way.

He answered his own question using his earlier proposal of pornography as a depiction of the end of the world.

"Pornography calls into question the assumption that we are a civilized society, that in fact the systems out of which our society is built are truly civilized," Jensen said. "If you have an unleashed patriarchy, an unleashed white supremacy and an unleashed, predatory corporate capitalism, [pornography] is the image of the world that they produce [...] an image in which the most important feature is that there is no empathy possible."

Jensen's portrayal of contemporary society is not optimistic. But despite his forecast of doom and gloom he remained inspired and he hoped to spur his audience to action rather than depress them.

"If the world were a bad place just because people were bastards, you couldn't fight that," Jensen said.

"Human beings are what they are. If you can see that human nature is channeled through institutions and sys-

tems, then you can say, 'Well, I can fight that,' and so it creates the possibility of action."

"For me, that action doesn't have to come with guarantees of short-term results to be meaningful."

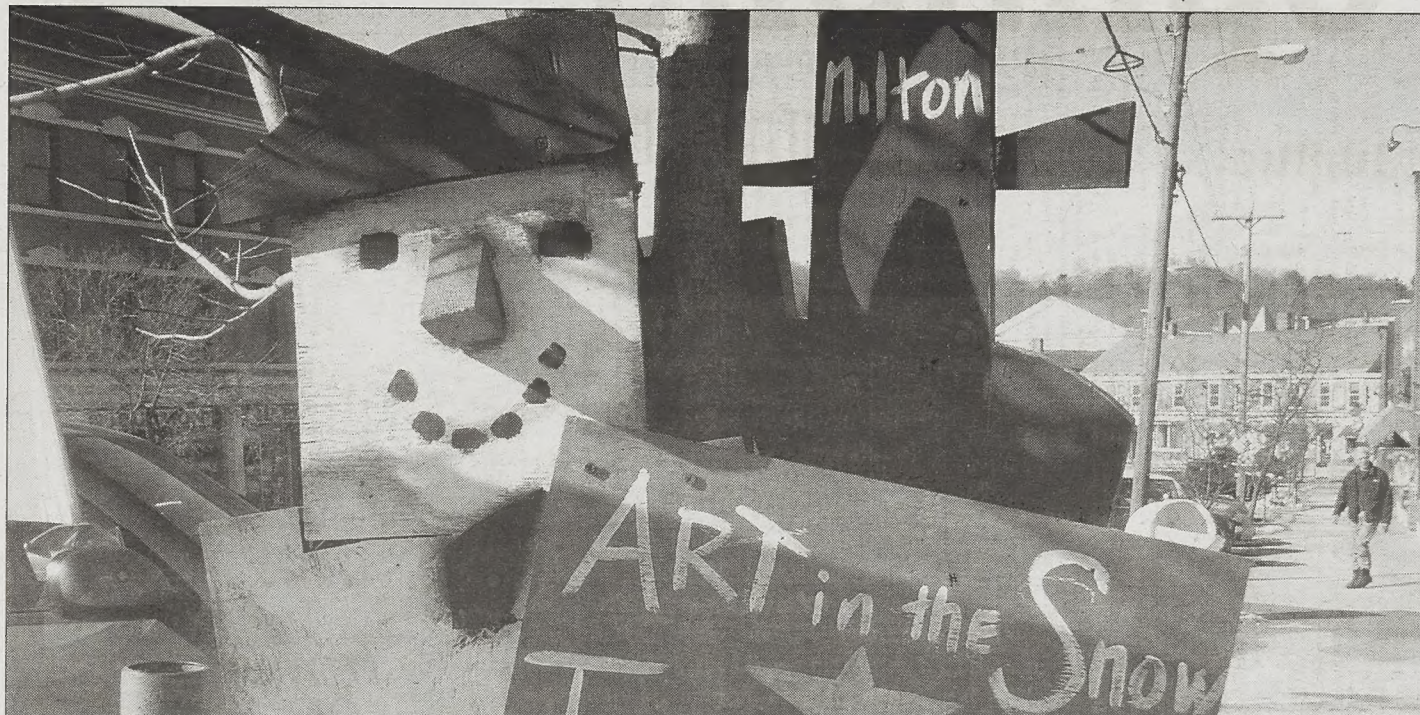


Men objectify themselves as well as they objectify women. We need to go deeper into that and think about teaching men to view themselves as sacred and their sexuality as sacred and precious.

—Melissa Deas

be laughed at. When Atwood asked a group of women why they were afraid of men, they said they were afraid to be killed.

Jensen's argument is that pornography increasingly propagates both of these fears,



Kelly Janis/File Photo

At the Art in the Snow festival, more than 20 artists displayed their works in an effort to stimulate Brandon's economy during a winter lull.

Brandon festival highlights budding art community

By Alyssa O'Gallagher
STAFF WRITER

At this winter's second Art in the Snow festival in Brandon, Vt., one part of its title was missing. Despite the unseasonably warm February day, the festival recognized and celebrated the town's growing arts community on Feb. 28. Recently christened "the art and soul of Vermont," Brandon has become, unbeknownst to many, a hotbed of artistic activity a mere 16 miles from Middlebury.

Art in the Snow started five years ago, when a coalition of Brandon innkeepers looked to bolster winter business in a town that lacks many of the classic Vermont winter draws, such as a ski slope. Innkeepers endeavored to attract five or six local studios to participate in the festival for the next two years. The following year, recognizing how much potential the festival had not yet tapped, local artists took control of the festival with Brandon fabric artist Judith Reilly at the helm. Since then, recruiting efforts have increased participation from five to six artists at its inception to 15 to 22 artists for each festival. For the first time this year, in an attempt to broaden its scope, Art in the Snow featured culinary and performing arts in addition to more traditional media.

Reilly, former chair of Art in the Snow, expressed that the relaxed pace of winter often gives artists some down time to be creative,

explore new ideas and make mistakes, a luxury they don't have during the much busier spring and summer seasons.

"Art in the Snow gives visitors the opportunity to observe local artists at their most creative time," Reilly said.

Reilly herself is a fabric artist who has been quilting for 40 years. She uses the winters to experiment with new quilting techniques, and, as a part of Art in the Snow, opens her studio to the public four times a year to demonstrate her artistic process.

The Brandon Artists' Guild (BAG), located on Center Street in downtown Brandon, serves as the Art in the Snow headquarters. The BAG, a self-governed coalition of around 50 local artists, came out of the efforts of eminent folk artist Warren Kimble. Several local artists expressed that the entire artistic presence in Brandon can be attributed to Kimble, whom they say is even responsible for convincing artists to relocate to the budding artistic hub.

Kimble, known for his folk art, is just one of more than a dozen artists opening his studio to the public for visits and demonstrations as a part of the Art in the Snow festival this year. His most recent artistic endeavor, inspired by the recent presidential election, features a series of pieces centering on the sun.

"As a result of the election, the sun came out," he said of the pieces.

All of the artists — from Steve Zorn, who has worked with glass for the past three years, to Liza Myers, who sculpted her first goddess figurine at age 7 — are eager to discuss their creative processes with visitors.

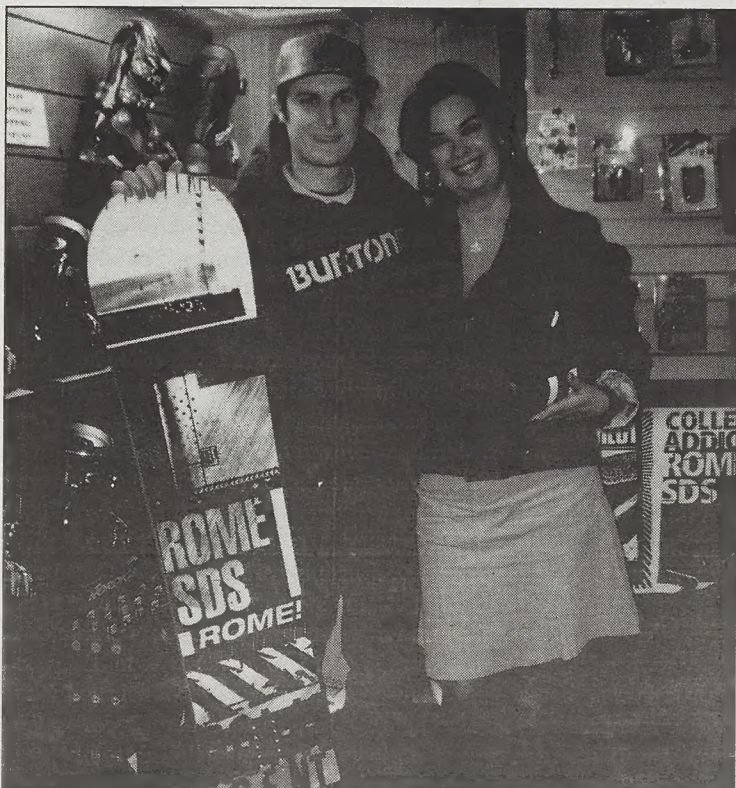
As Myers expressed, "the arts have empowered [Brandon]." But they've also fostered a sense of community among the artists themselves. As I wandered from studio to studio, the artist-in-residence would often say something like, "You should really check out Warren Kimble next door," or, "You should head down the road to Robin Kent's place at Artisans on the Bend."

The artistic community has extended this bond to the town itself by partnering with Brandon businesses to provide events and specials at local shops, eateries and inns around the town as part of Art in the Snow. The BAG holds a monthly drawing for \$100 in "Brandon Green," Brandon's local currency. Eligibility for the drawing requires the presentation of a Brandon Art in the Snow tour map stamped at 10 different locations.

While efforts like Art in the Snow and the Brandon Green movement have tried to spur local commerce, several artists did seem to express some fear for the future of the Brandon arts community in the deepening economic crisis. But for those enjoying the art, the last weekend of Art in the Snow on March 28-29 carries a price tag that fits: free.

one in 8,200

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated
At Alpine Shop, Van Gulden and Crystal prep locals for the slopes



Nerissa Khan

At the Alpine Shop, locals, transplants and students alike create a team of personalities who help Vermonters with their endeavors on the slopes.

By Sarah Harris
STAFF WRITER

The Alpine Shop boasts a unique cast of characters.

The experts on the slope wait in a darkened basement, where hundreds of students rent and purchase skis and boards each year. Fischer Van Gulden, a 24-year-old Monkton native wearing a Burton sweatshirt, explained the ins and outs of predicting trends and buying products: "You have to go with your gut and know your customer base, and what type of customer shops at your store," he said. Van Gulden gained experience from four years spent working at a board and ski shop in San Francisco.

"Middlebury is a little behind in the trends by about a year or so," he said. But his time on the West Coast gave him a keen eye for what will be the next "big thing":

"Reverse chamber boards. That'll be a big change in snowboarding."

Upstairs, shoppers are warmly greeted by Ann Crystal, a gregarious personality and born retailer. Her accent belies her origins of Jacksonville, Fl. Overcrowded public schools in Orlando forced Crystal, her husband and their two children to turn elsewhere in search of a small and vibrant community.

"The college sold it — it had all these cultural opportunities I felt were important," said Crystal. "And it's cold, but boy, do I like flying over the mountains and coming home." In her 17 years in Middlebury, Crystal has become an integral part of the town's fabric through lobbying for small businesses. "Small businesses," she said, "are the back-bone of our society. I work retail and small business — this allows me to stay part of the community."

local lowdown

All-you-can-eat fish fry!

March 6, 5-7 p.m.

The Saint Ambrose Church in Bristol is happy to host the 10th annual Lenten fish fry with all-you-can-eat fried or baked haddock, fries, coleslaw, drinks and dessert. Adults: \$9; children under 12: \$5; families of five or more: \$28. Information 453-2488



"Calendar" art opening

March 6, 7-9 p.m.

Carols Hungry Mind Café welcomes artist Pete Sutherland for the opening reception of the collage art show "Calendar Art." The exhibit will go on through the month of March at Carol's.

A Colored Girl's College Tour

March 6, 8 p.m.

"A Colored Girl's College Tour," written and performed by Sheyenne Brown '09, is a reflection on life at both Middlebury College and Spelman College in Georgia.

This presentation of Brown's senior work will be shown at 51 Main at the Bridge, with seats first-come, first-served. Free at 51 Main, also showing on Saturday, March 7.

Flatbread benefit bake-off

March 7, 5-9 p.m.

Proceeds from American Flatbread this evening will go to support WomenSafe. For more information: 388-9180.

Pig race, pig roast

March 8, 12 p.m.

The Blueberry Hill Cross Country Ski Center in Goshen is happy to host this annual race with signature trails and a pig roast potluck supper afterwards.

Weybridge had a little lamb...

March 8, 5 p.m.

Duclos and Thompson Farm on Sheep Farm Road will be hosting its 26th annual open barn, boasting over 200 little lambs with more being born every day.

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

To make a moral choice

While the College's Honor Code has always been a somewhat amorphous concept, its existence is undeniably crucial to our Middlebury experience. By forcing students' collective honesty to triumph over greed and self-consciousness, the Code is a learning tool that transcends university politics. The qualities of trust and integrity it hopes to instill in students have value that reaches far beyond the borders of our quiet Vermont campus.

Still, we cannot fault professors for feeling uneasy leaving students unattended during exams, nor can we protest the proposed changes to the Honor Code (to be voted upon by the student body this coming week). The purpose of the Code, as we understand it, is to promote academic integrity among students and to foster a trusting relationship between professor and pupil. Those who resent the faculty for questioning the Code need only glance at the College's alarming statistics about cheating to recognize the system is deeply flawed. In addition, certain academic subjects seem to facilitate cheating more than others, leaving the integrity of some departments in question.

While those of us who abide by the Honor Code appreciate the College's trust, some of our peers find it all too easy to exploit it. Ironically, the Code does more now to enable than prevent the very violations for which the system was created. As it stands, the Code still promotes personal integrity — the idea that we, as a collective, can uphold the College's values and standards without adult intervention. But the cold, hard evidence forces us to confront a disappointing reality: not only are we dishonest about academic dishonesty, we are also too unwilling to defend those standards and values we profess to hold so dear.

When the concept of an Honor Code diverges from its purpose, reevaluation is not only acceptable, it is imperative. In a community such as ours, we would all prefer to believe the best about our peers. Few would accept that the unassuming student in the back of the classroom would look over our shoulders during an exam, or that our favorite professor is secretly suspicious of our work. But in the high-pressure culture of college life, such unfortunate behavior can become unavoidable truth.

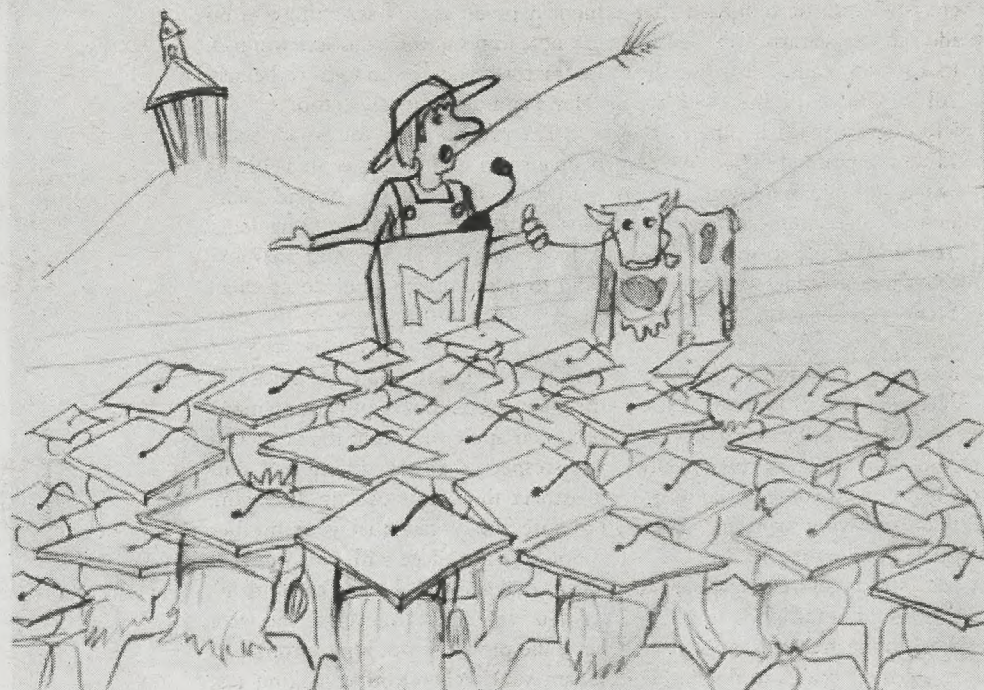
The Honor Code has become a vehicle promoting collective integrity at the expense of personal integrity. Now, it is up to this community to decide which it finds more valuable.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu or find us on the web at: www.middleburycampus.com

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COMMENCEMENT SPEECH 2009



"Now, lemme tell you a thing or two about makin' yogurt..."

Elizabeth Zevallos

Notes from the Desk: Peter Baumann

Panther pride

As the ball floated upward, what had started as a general rumble erupted into a cacophony of sound and exhilaration. Something about that ball was timeless. With Pepin arena exploding around it, the orange orb continued to fight against the bondage of gravity, climbing towards the rafters as if propelled by some unseen widget. Moments earlier it had been in the hands of Ben Rudin '09 as he danced towards half-court while milking the final seconds of the Panthers' 2009 NESCAC Basketball championship, but now it was suspended in mid-air, its voyage lost against the backdrop of jubilation and pride.

As the ball reached the apex of its arc, its arrival was heralded by two noises: the final buzzer — a shrill and sharp siren that pierced through the pandemonium with the same facility the ball had shown moments before in its fight against nature — and a deep, guttural scream from Rudin.

The buzzer hailed the arrival of Middlebury basketball into the brave new world of NESCAC supremacy, announcing for all to hear that the Panthers numbers this season, 24 victories including 17 straight, were not a convenient mirage. But for Rudin the scream expressed more. It told the tale of the 2006 NESCAC Rookie of the Year who had struggled through ups and downs during his career but had always taken the lead down Middlebury's path to respectability. With one scream you could see the pressures, expectations and disappointments of the last four years floating off his shoulders, quickly sucked away by the symphony of 1,200 voices yelling at once.

But despite its success, the basketball team was not the story of this weekend. Rather, it was the student body that turned out in droves to watch their friends and peers dive into famously uncharted waters. The most telling moment was watching students at previously hockey-centric Middlebury pack Pepin to the gills to watch the basketball team defeat Bowdoin ... and then almost entirely neglect the men's hockey quarterfinal later the same afternoon.

Perhaps we came out to watch Rudin's intensity, admiring as he always found a second gear following a big

defensive stop. Maybe it was to get a look at the way Kyle Dudley's '09 jump-shot seems to loft easily off of his right shoulder on its way to the bottom of the net. It might have been the way that Tim Edwards '10 took pride in covering the other team's top scorer, the way Ryan Sharry '12 always seemed to come down with an offensive rebound when the Panthers needed it most or the way that Andrew Locke '11 completely changes the way opposing teams choose to attack the paint.

Whatever it was, we came. From the depths of NESCAC obscurity, Coach Jeff Brown, Co-Captains Aaron Smith '09 and Rudin and the rest of the Panthers built a championship program. And once they built it, we came. We came from ADP, Palmer, Washington St. and Stewart. We came from the CFA, Johnson, Axinn and McCardell

Bicentennial hall. We came, we yelled, we stomped and we cheered because this team represented hard work, dedication, fun and ultimately payoff — what more could one ask for in a Middlebury allegory?

Eventually

the ball had to come down, but by the time it had completed its odyssey, it bounced quietly to the floor, rolling off away from the mob that had formed at half-court as teammates, coaches and even a few adoring fans celebrated the thrill of victory. Likewise, having entered a world where only one more team will end its season with a victory, the Panthers might find their spirits brought down from on high with a loss during the NCAA championships. But no matter what happens over the course of the next three weeks, I will always remember that moment: the ball suspended in mid-air, its passage engulfed in sound and palpable energy. The clock showing only zeros. Rudin's face twisted in a mixture of exhilaration and relief. And 1,200 students, faculty, administrators and parents screaming as one — for one afternoon, bound together by the efforts and successes of 15 remarkable young men.

PETER BAUMANN '10 IS THE OPINIONS EDITOR.
 HE IS FROM DENVER, COLO.

campus policies and information

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Op-Ed: Alison Mehravari Social responsibility

There is a fantastic billboard that has made an appearance in recent years. Its caption reads, "Turn off the lights. All it takes is..." and there are three pictures next to each other: one of a hand with a pointed finger, one of a light switch and one of a brain. I love this billboard, for a couple of reasons. First, it reminds people to turn off the lights, which is a reminder that we can all use. Secondly, and more importantly, it makes it exceedingly obvious that there is no excuse for not turning off the lights. All it takes is your brain, and you can save a lot of energy by doing so. (For those of you who think that you actually use more energy by turning the lights on and off than by leaving them on, Myth-busters proved that wrong.)

In addition to addressing people's failure to turn off the lights, the billboard speaks to the greater issue of people not using their brains to do simple things to show respect to those around them. Sadly, there are examples of this on campus every day. There is no reason, however, that we can't remedy this fact.

There are two main categories of "brain use/respect failures": respect for the environment, and respect for the people around you. Let's start with the environment. Although there are many Middlebury students who do care about the environment, somehow there is always trash on the ground all over campus. There are tons of trash cans outside on campus, often directly on your way to/from class/the gym/one of your 12 rehearsals/meetings/activities. If you've got trash, there is absolutely no reason why you cannot hold onto it until you reach a trash can. If you drop trash accidentally, how much time does it take to pick it back up? Seconds, maybe. And even if you always put your trash in the proper receptacle, there is no reason you can't pick up the slack for trash that is left on the ground. If you pass by some trash that you're not grossed out by (run away napkins, cans and bottles, empty cups, etc.), and you know that you're going to pass a trash can, why not pick it up and throw (or recycle) it away? You don't have to go out of your way at all, and you're keeping the environ-

ment happier, as well as setting a good example for everyone who sees you pick up the trash and says to him- or herself, "Hey, I could pick up trash too."

The second issue for which some people seem unable to use their brains is to respect the people around them. This occurs often in the dining halls. A few examples, to jog your memory (and to guilt you into not doing them again): when cutting fruit in the dining halls, there is usually a bucket right next to the cutting board for refuse. Is there any excuse not to put your banana peels and apple cores into the bucket? It is disrespectful to the dining hall staff to expect them to clean up after you. I'm sure you're glad that your mother is not here at college with you, but that means that she's not here to clean up after you (and in truth, even if she were here, she probably wouldn't want to do so anyway). When you're making tea, how difficult is it to make sure that the tea bag wrapper actually makes it into the trash, rather than ending up on the ground, and requiring a dining hall staff member (or disgruntled student) to do so for you? And our favorite topic ever — returning dining hall dishes! It boggles the mind how one can think it is okay to take dishes out of the dining hall and expect someone else to return them! That is a topic for another article, but in the meantime, I'll just say: return the damn dishes! And if you walk past a lonesome dish on the way to the dining hall, why not pick it up and return it? How many times have you walked past a mug sitting on the stone wall in Adirondack Circle while on your way to Ross for lunch and not picked it up? (If you are a person who picks them up, thank you.) As the billboard suggests, it's so easy to use your brain to make life easier for people around you — there's no reason not to.

And finally, though it's already been mentioned, turn off the lights! Seriously. If you're the last one to leave a room, decrease our carbon emissions and turn off the lights. Brain, finger, light switch. You know what to do.

ALISON MEHRAVARI '10 IS FROM
ITHACA, N.Y.

heardoncampus

Women fake orgasms like men
fake foreplay.

— Dorian Solot,
sex educator

THE IDEAL WORLD

(AS I SEE IT)



Get in here, Wilson. We were just reviewing the Q2 earnings. Pull up a crapper and have yourself a seat.

John Birnbaum

Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy Perseus and the Megoogle

Every age projects its anxieties onto a perceived conflict between humanity and technology. In Plato's time, it was feared that literacy would destroy the art of oration. At the end of the nineteenth century, it was feared that horse-drawn-carriage-loving London would drown in manure. Ours is the age of Google-phobia.

There has been a flurry of articles in the past year — notably by Nicholas Carr (*The Atlantic Monthly*) and Andrew Sullivan (*The Atlantic Monthly*), less notably by David Small (*The Middlebury Campus*) — decrying the impact of Google, Facebook, instant messaging, online porn, etc. on our ability to socialize, read a book, pay attention, exercise, call our parents, have healthy sex, finish homework, etc.

This happens periodically as our vices, which hitherto had been calcified in some supposedly innocuous form, find new ways of expression, and are therefore perceived as new demons, borne out of a changing society corrupted by its Faustian disregard for the tried and true tenets of the past.

The root of this problem is the fallacious belief in moral progress. Surely, each of us has a way to go as a human being — and many would claim that their lives are devoted to self-perfection — but our concurrent belief in eternal human truths, evidenced by the timelessness of our cultural heritage, suggests that every generation repeats the same cycle, and doesn't advance relative to its predecessors.

What we are afforded by every technological advance is the opportunity to rewrite the same cultural texts in

the language of our own time. Those whose hindsight is less than 20/20 regard this as the displacement of forms they come to perceive as traditional and more legitimate. Much to their distress, the dominance of the novel has been supplanted; for the public — by film, for writers — by modernism. Our current predicament is that of post-modernism: redefined authorship, cross-genre and cross-

**Imagine the vigor with
which our predecessors
must have taken up writing
when it occurred to them
that their thoughts could be
graphically reproduced and
disseminated.**

media. What many see today as rare uses of the Internet for curious but ultimately trivial means will be seen by our successors as the art of our time — and inevitably as better than that of their contemporaries.

When Nicholas Carr writes, "In Google's world, the world we enter when we go online, there's little place for the fuzziness of contemplation," it is nothing but alarmist hogwash. He knows well that online circulation is

greater than that of print — and if it leaves little place for contemplation, it is the content, not the medium, that we have to blame. The question implied by Carr et al. is whether we've finally arrived at the medium that will alter its content. Let us entertain the notion by looking at another disciple of the Church of Cultural Apocalypse.

With the self-righteous tone of a man familiar with, and resigned to, his weaknesses, Andrew Sullivan laments the growing list of books he wants to read, but cannot bring himself to: "I think I'll start with Nietzsche at some point. But right now I have a blog to fill." Under the lens of his own criticism, he is an apt illustration of why the Internet is seductive, dangerous, and should be approached with no less than full-body protective gear.

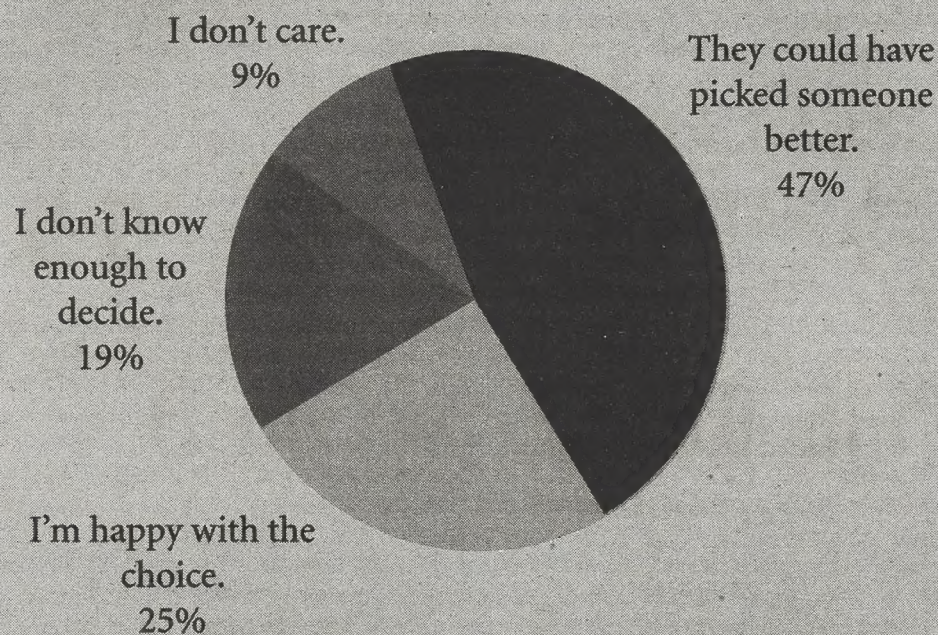
Yet readjust the historical field of view, and it becomes clear that Sullivan's behavior is only symptomatic of the binge that follows any kind of liberation. Imagine the vigor with which our predecessors must have taken up writing when it occurred to them that their thoughts — *their thoughts!!* — could be graphically reproduced and disseminated. Or look at the first films ever made: they just show people walking and trains moving, like those early days of livejournal, when most entries were about taking naps and eating sandwiches.

Culture is not Andromeda. Get over it.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

The Campus Poll

How do you feel about the choice of Gary Hirshberg as the class of 2009 Commencement Speaker?



Next week's question:

How do you feel about the proposed changes to the Honor Code?

In order to make *The Campus* opinions section a more accessible medium, starting this semester *The Campus* will include a poll containing not only numerical data but also personal statements from interested students. Each week we will post the poll question for the next week's issue. Go online to www.middleburycampus.com and select the response that best reflects your position on the issue. Feel strongly about a particular poll question? On the left side of the web site click on the tab entitled "Send a Letter to the Editor" and, in 150 words or less, explain your rationale for voting as you did. Everybody has an opinion. Share it.

Responses

I think it would be more interesting to hear him give an economics-oriented lecture about his business experiences, but that doesn't mean he will be a bad commencement speaker. While he certainly isn't the high-profile speaker that some people were hoping for, he has done a lot with his life thus far, and I think he will be an engaging speaker. I would much rather have a good speech from a somewhat unknown person than a bland speech from a big name.

— Mike McCormick '09

I am disappointed with the choice of Mr. Hirshberg as this year's commencement speaker. I think that he does not represent a choice that took into account the interests of the class as a whole, but rather a vocal minority. More than anything else most people wanted a recognizable public figure with something interesting to say, and this I think is a great reason to rethink our commencement speaker policies in general.

— Will Hackett '09

I'm somewhat disappointed because he's not a household name, but I'm sure he will be well-spoken and engaging.

— Steve Shortle '09

Letter to the Editor

Richard Fuld, Middlebury Trustee?

To the editor:

I noted with great alarm that Richard Fuld — yes, that guy — is a Middlebury College trustee! Fuld is the Lehman Brothers CEO who shoulders a good deal of responsibility for precipitating the current global economic crisis, either because of malignant greed or profound negligence. Kind of ironic that a quality institution like Middlebury that teaches and guides the newest generation of adults is being led by one of the architects of a crisis that will cripple the global economy for an entire generation. I guess money talks — is Bernie Madoff in line for an opening on the board, perhaps?

Sincerely,
Arnold Yukashvili

Op-Ed: Robert E. Prasch

The economics of President Obama's stimulus package

As everyone now knows, the U.S. and the world are in the grip of a tremendous financial crisis. Many banks have failed. Virtually every honest analyst and commentator understands that many of those that are still operating are actually bankrupt by any reasonable measure — all that keeps them breathing is government life support in the form of massive infusions of cash from the Federal Reserve and the U.S. Treasury. As to firms, revenues are falling, inventories are up and orders are down. The American consumer is faced with actual or threatened layoffs, debt loads that are very high by any historical standard, falling house prices, a declining stock market and tight consumer credit. Not a pretty picture. Since, in macroeconomics, aggregate demand is what determines total spending, and total spending determines our national income, we are in a bit of a pickle. As a matter of logic, if businesses and consumers will not spend, and exports show no sign of a sudden increase, then our options are to increase government spending or stand by and watch the economy go over the cliff. The choice is not enviable, but at least it is simple.

A sudden and widespread decline in the value of assets — in this case, stocks and houses — induces a reduction in aggregate spending through a mechanism known as the wealth effect. Here is how it works. Let us be optimistic. Let us suppose that American housing wealth will only decline by \$6 trillion (that is about \$20,000 for every man, woman and child in the U.S.). Since we are on this optimistic note, let us also say that the total wealth lost in the stock market crash will only come to \$7 trillion. This decline in wealth (not income, which is another subject) will induce people to cut back on their expenditures. A plausible estimate of spending per dollar of wealth is around 5 percent. If \$13 trillion of wealth has been lost then we can anticipate that consumption will decline by \$650 billion per annum as a consequence of the wealth effect from declining stocks and housing alone. Again, this does not include reductions in business investment as a consequence of reduced bank lending. Additionally, we have not accounted for the reduced expenditures that will follow from the actual or anticipated loss of jobs. Stated simply, the above estimates are only partial and certainly represent a lower boundary.

Let us compare the above number to the recently enacted stimulus package. The total for the latter was \$787 billion. Moreover, it is to be spent over several years. Additionally, about 40 percent of it is in the form of tax cuts, and we can

anticipate that a lot of this will go into savings. As such, it will not be spent, and what the U.S. needs is spending — and it needs it now. But let us remain optimistic and suppose that all of it will be spent. Even if half of the stimulus is spent this year, a most unlikely scenario, it will not even begin to cover the (likely underestimated) losses that can be attributed to the wealth effect from losses in stocks and housing. This means that, at best, the stimulus will only check the decline in the American economy and will not stop it. That said, it is good that someone is trying to do something.

What, you may ask, of the counter-argument? What of the points raised that the ensuing deficit will cause the nation to go broke, or that government spending is largely wasteful, or that it will destroy private initiative?

The nation will not "go broke" for a very simple reason: it prints its own means of payment. Suppose, as an analogy, that

If businesses and consumers will not spend, and exports show no signs of a sudden increase, then our options are to increase government spending or stand by and watch the economy go over the cliff.

I could settle my debts by printing up currency with my face on it (call them "Prasch Notes"). In such an event, I would be a perfect credit-risk. No one can doubt that I could pay my bills. As a nation with the world's leading international currency, we have this advantage. We borrow in dollars and pay our creditors in dollars. Now, there are times and places when we might not wish to over-issue currency. But the causes and consequences of inflation are another subject and, either way, a bit of inflation is never as bad as a depression. Trust me, I lived through the inflation of the '70s and my parents lived through the Great Depression — the latter was worse, a lot worse.

Can government spending be wasteful? Having served in the U.S. Army, I can assure you that I have seen waste on a

scale that staggers the imagination. But is it always wasteful? I would say, compared to what? Personally, I will take roads, bridges, schools, national parks and federal water projects over more subprime loans and silly dot-coms any day, and twice a day on Sunday! Like everyone else I can list a number of projects that are wasteful — although you might not like my list — but frankly, such a conversation misses the larger point, which as summarized above is to quickly ramp up total spending. Even if we exclusively used the stimulus monies for group sing-alongs and the building of large pyramids, it would have the effect we want. It gets people on payrolls. They, in turn, will contribute to the stream of spending. That is the goal. If we find something better than sing-alongs and pyramids to spend money on, then I would say "terrific." Green energy sounds fine; so do improved infrastructure and schools. Even if the final catalog of projects is not what you or I would consider to be "optimal," something is being added to overall spending and that is the objective.

Finally, we are told that government spending will destroy private initiative. Personally, I love it when tenured economics professors at public universities make this argument. It reminds us that irony is still alive. But I digress. How much initiative is being destroyed as the unemployment rate moves ever upward? Statisticians have measured the relationship between increased unemployment and rises in divorce, drug abuse, domestic violence, etc. This does not add to initiative. Moreover, we know that businesses are cutting back and banks are not lending. Such tendencies do not present a promising environment for the launching of new ideas. The fact is that new ventures are more likely to prosper in a healthy economic environment. Businesses, banks, and even consumers are more open to new ideas, products, processes and lifestyles when they are flush.

In short, the stimulus package is a good start. It will almost certainly not be enough. It follows that we are in for a rough ride. Having graduated from university during the Reagan recession of the early 1980s, I extend my sympathies to the Class of '09. Do, however, remember that it is not you who are responsible if you have a slow start after college; that culpability lies with the people who constructed this mess over the past decade.

ROBERT E. PRASCH IS AN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS.

Waters to Wine: Mike Waters The oenophile in us all

Wine, perhaps more than any other beverage, conveys an experience, a sophistication and an appreciation for the finer things in life — a message clearly not lost on those who proudly host wine and cheese parties on a weekly basis. So with my perceived sophistication in mind, this past J-Term I signed up for the Winter Term workshop *An Introduction and Survival Guide to Wine*, led by Dave Kerin, Grille manager and wine fanatic. It was high time, too. Despite my attempts at maturity and discerning taste, until the first Thursday in January my knowledge of wine started and ended with how to play “Slap the Bag.” Embarrassing, yes, but I hear this is how all future oenophiles get their start.

The class was held in a McCardell Bicentennial Hall lecture hall — an unlikely place for wine tasting, but necessary to house such a sizeable crowd. Something like 90 people were signed up for the class (college students like drinking — who knew?) and on the first day we eagerly awaited the chance to fill our stomachs and our minds with all that Dave Kerin had to offer.

To start the class, we each selected two glasses — one for red, one for white — as it would be sacrilegious to drink dissimilar wines out of the same glass (even I knew this, an addendum to my knowledge of Slap the Bag and, now that I think about it, The Tour de Franzia). We were also issued sheets of white paper, to aid in judging the color of our wines, although for an inexperienced crowd, our identifiable spectrum most likely consisted of “red,” “white” and the occasional “pink” (for White Zinfandel — the Smirnoff

Ice of the wine industry).

Kerin’s teaching was mostly through anecdotes and questions from the class, which seemed appropriate given the subject matter. I doubt that any of my peers showed up the first day with a notepad and pencil, so I think any more regimented curriculum might have failed. Additionally, it seems that wine, like so many delights of the artistic classes (among them food, cheese, art, France and consciousness-expanding drugs) is best learned through a mentor. This is the way Kerin learned, and while he couldn’t serve indefinitely as guru to all of us, while in the classroom, that is what he was.

By far the most concrete thing I learned about wine tasting was exactly how to do it. According to Kerin, there are

To start the class, we selected two glasses — one for red, one for white — as it would be sacrilegious to drink dissimilar wines out of the same glass.

“Four S’s of Wine Tasting,” although in my research and imagination, there can be several more. Among these are “See” to judge the color of the wine, “Swirl” to release its bouquet, “Sniff” (alternately “Smell”) to indulge in its full aroma, “Sip” to sip, “Savor,” which requires as little explanation as Sip, “Spit,” when one is tasting multiple wines — or its counterpart, “Swallow” when one is not — and finally, “Summarize,” which is where one practices the usage of flowery language and descriptive bombast most often associated with wine tasting. And while it seems that the full experience of wine tasting has already been exhaustively recorded in S’s, from my personal experience, I would also suggest “Slurp,” “Spill,” “Stain” and, of course, “Slap.”

MIKE WATERS ’10 IS FROM BEDFORD, MASS.

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Article by Aylie Baker,
Features Editor

HIV prevalence

The late Studs Terkel once said that "most of us have jobs that are too small for our spirits."

He never met Dr. Paul Farmer.

Providing free healthcare to over two million patients in 10 countries, one might even venture to say that it's Farmer's job that's running to keep up with his spirit.

Farmer is a man veritably cloaked in accolades. With seeming ease, he fills the role of anthropologist, doctor, epidemiologist and professor, not to mention father and distinguished author. He lives on very little personal income, signing over any awards to the international non-profit organization Partners in Health (PIH), of which he is a co-founder. Renowned worldwide for its community-based healthcare strategies for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, PIH is devoted to providing healthcare services and engaging in research and advocacy projects on behalf of both the sick and the poor.

The ultimate Renaissance man, Farmer's persona has been reified in Tracy Kidder's biography "Mountains Beyond Mountains," a title arising from the Haitian proverb, "Beyond mountains, there are more mountains." In Farmer's line of work, the horizon is forever studded with new challenges to overcome and new heights to reach.

This past Saturday, Feb. 28, through the hard work of a dedicated group of students, Farmer found himself bracing the cold here — in the mountains of Vermont — to give a lecture titled "Rethinking Health and Human Rights."

Photo by Meaghen Brown
Additional reporting by H. Kay Merriman, Features Editor

When I arrived at the local café for an interview before Paul Farmer's lecture, he was chatting quietly with a colleague, moving in tandem from his food to a small computer beside him with a quiet efficiency. Above us, high tin ceilings gave way to fans that rotated lazily in the warm room. Closing his computer, Farmer scooted toward me in the booth.

It's hard to believe the tall man who was sitting beside me grew up on a tuberculosis-screening bus, a tent and a boat, or that he went to hospital only once as a child for a broken arm. But more than that, I was surprised by how normal he seemed — how easygoing and funny. Fiddling around with my tape recorder, Farmer threw my friend a wink and chirped, "I'm unimpressed."

I started by asking him about the last patient he treated, and he began to describe a 29-year-old man he saw last week in Haiti who was suffering from a rare fungal disease. "He's the one on my mind today," Farmer explained, glancing at his closed computer where inquiries about other patients from all over the world were likely awaiting response. Farmer's famous dictum came immediately to mind: "TMTC." *Too many to count.*

"Do you have a hero or a role model?" I ventured.

"You know, I could point to great figures like Martin Luther King or others like Mandela," he began. "They inspire me, just as they inspire so many other people. But there are also the nameless people..." Here he paused, seemingly sifting through his thoughts.

"Last Wednesday, I saw a woman in Haiti who has six kids," continued Farmer. "Two

of them are sick. She's sick herself. She's got AIDS. Her hut was badly damaged in the storms and she was looking to have a meeting with me about what? She wanted to make sure that two of her kids got fees for school. That was what she wanted to talk about."

Farmer speaks with an insistence that is electrifying. "There are people who are heroes and role models who get by with so little yet still try to make things better for their children and their neighbors," he said. "So they're my role models too."

"I don't romanticize poverty," he added quickly. "I'm saying their struggle against poverty is what impresses me."

Healthcare as a human right

"I myself am not interested in writing a new Bill of Rights," said Farmer when I asked him if he'd ever consider drafting his own version of a healthcare doctrine.

"It's learning how to realize those rights that PIH strives to do," he explained. "As an NGO, we can never confer or bestow rights on people, but we can push forward that agenda. Healthcare, housing, economic inequality... I don't think we should be naive. We do need to entrap ourselves into decency through legislation."

In over 20 years of work with PIH, Farmer has come to realize the inefficiency of building parallel infrastructures alongside already existing ones. Alternatively, PIH seeks to work with existing bodies in the public sector. "The public sector confers rights," he said. "We need rules and regulations. The banking

crisis and the mortgage crisis have shown that deregulation is not all it's cracked up to be by its proponents. So it is with rights."

PIH is working to change the face of healthcare in the developing world. Through building new facilities and hiring mostly local — rather than foreign — workers, PIH angles to impart a new trust in healthcare to its patients while creating a system which is sustainable in the long term. In response to raucous accusations of fostering dependency or overpopulation, Farmer touts the "notion that you can create virtuous social cycles."

Re-evaluating cost

"The modern religion of our times is economic and cost effectiveness," said Farmer in his lecture, delivered to a packed McCullough Social Space.

It's this drive for cost effectiveness, he explained, which has crept into common parlance and which lends its clout to the argument against universal healthcare. It's the creed that has poisoned words like "solidarity" and shaped the contours of a world map in which Africa and India are swollen with infectious diseases yet laden with the least medical care.

"The arguments against rights are largely economic," said Farmer, and as his slideshow progressed, the rhumb lines of poverty became increasingly salient. Healthcare is a commodity to be enjoyed but also levied by the wealthy. Prevention education regarding infectious diseases is more cost effective than medical treatment. Providing food to patients,

no matter how malnourished, is unsustainable. These are the arguments which PIH is taking on and trying to dispel.

Currently, there are 10-14 million AIDS orphans in Africa and people are up in arms about diverting costs from prevention education to treatment. "[People today] don't know how to do social costing," insisted Farmer. "We'll never scale up without the government."

Which is not to say that cost is not important — rather, it's the evaluation of that cost that is *essential*. It's about joining forces and harnessing the services of other organizations, for example, local food and laptop programs.

With the help of the Clinton Foundation, Farmer was able to drive down drug prices from \$10,000 per year to \$90 per year for HIV/AIDS patients. Rwanda has an electronic medical record. These are realities of teamwork and multilateralism.

"The environmental movement and the global social justice movement — they need to come together," stressed Farmer. "If we move these two movements together that's going to change the world. We have to change the planet. Your generation has to do this. I'm very optimistic."

"Having an African-American president does not remove racism," added Farmer, adjusting his glasses. "It does not change the challenge that faces full enfranchisement in every country. It's not over until it's over. Until there are real rights. I think your generation has got a long way to go."

SEE FARMER, PAGE 14

Paul Farmer kicks off Global Health Symposium

March 5

Kick-off bonfire on Battell Beach. Proceeds from s'mores sales benefit Amnesty International's Minus Malaria

March 8

"Where on Earth Are We Going?: Human Health and Climate Change" Lecture by Kris Ebi, Ph.D., M.P.H.

March 10

"Health and Human Rights: Ethics of Humanitarian Aid During War, Conflict and Natural Disaster"

March 11

"What is working? What is not?" Faculty Panel with Svea Closser, Sarah Stroup and Ken Dabs, Open Door Clinic Middlebury

March 12

"Why Your Mom Tells You to Eat Your Carrots" Lecture by Alfred Sommer, M.D., M.H.S., Bloomberg School of Public Health

Ongoing

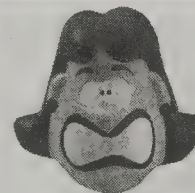
Partners in Health photo exhibit "On the Same Map": Celebrating 20 years of health and social justice

Free HIV Testing Tuesdays at the Open Door Clinic Thursday, March 12th at Parton Health Center; sign up first!

Presidential possibilities
The role of race in French politics,
page 15



The 'Big O'
A deeper look at the mysteries of
female satisfaction,
pages 13



No stress, no stress,
no stress
Girl, you deserve nothing
but the best,
page 14

Orgasm talk arouses loud response

By H.Kay Merriman
FEATURES EDITOR

"Sometimes there are advantages to 'coming' early," sex educator Dorian Solot joked to the occupants of a crowded Dana Auditorium last Thursday, Feb. 26. Solot's pun 'set the mood' for the rest of the evening. Laced with innuendos, tips, facts and positive encouragement, the "I ♥ Female Orgasm" lecture 'aroused' laughter and discussion about the sometimes elusive "Big O."

Both the men and the women in the audience held high expectations for the event.

"I expect the males in the audience to learn something. It's a public service, really," said Jess Minton '10.5.

Mark Hannah '11, a self-described "aspiring porn star," bragged that the workshop "should be like Math 101."

From public services to porn, Solot and partner Marshall Miller — "We have both professional and personal experience," Miller explained with a wink — covered a wide range of topics surrounding the female orgasm. After showing the infamous "I'll have what she's having" clip from "When Harry Met Sally" and joking that "women fake orgasms like men fake foreplay," Solot began with an inspiring story about the potentially life-saving importance of being comfortable with one's own body. Solot was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 26, an unusually young age for developing the dis-



Laurice Fox

Dorian Solot evoked laughter and discussion at the "I ♥ Female Orgasm" lecture last Thursday.

ease. Solot is thankful that she did not think that it was "bad or dirty or shameful to touch your own body" because, otherwise, she may not have absentmindedly run her hand across her breast and noticed the unusual lump. Nine years in remission, Solot and fellow Brown University graduate Miller have published the book "I ♥ Female Orgasm: An Extraordinary Guide" and donate 10 percent of all royalties to the research organization Breast Cancer Action.

Miller lamented the sexual education system in the United States, comparing the classes to driver's ed. "Imagine if they taught driver's ed, like sex ed," he said. "You could die, so just don't drive until you're married, but if you are going to drive, wear a seatbelt." Miller suggested that instead, sexual educators teach students, "where the gas pedal is, how to turn on the headlights and how to back out of the driveway."

Women have two extra strikes against them in sexual education, Solot explained. First, a woman is only taught how to say no to sex, which makes saying yes, once she is ready, feel unnatural and wrong. Second, "women's anatomy is tucked neatly inside," Solot said, comparing females' lack of contact with their primary sex organ with men's "touching it every time they pee."

The theme of combining knowledge with feeling comfortable was used throughout the

lecture. Solot and Miller, who both identify as bisexual, noted their appreciation for the diverse audience of all genders and sexual orientations, and encouraged everyone to become more comfortable with talking about sex by actively participating in the presentation.

"What did you hear about masturbation when you were growing up?" the sex educators posed to the audience. Some responses included, "Once a day keeps the doctor away," "When you get bored with the right, use the left" and "Every time you masturbate, God kills a kitten." Solot and Miller also requested that women share their first "accidental orgasm" stories. Students shared tales of pleasurable encounters with Jacuzzi jets, noodles in the pool and workout equipment.

The most telling open question to the audience, though, was when Solot asked, "What helps a woman have an orgasm?" "You have to be able to last thirty minutes," offered one intimidated male. "My roommate says you have to play techno music," added another. Finally, some well-informed student said, "Ask her what she likes," to which he received a rousing round of applause from the females in attendance.

In response to this gamut of answers, the "sexperts" explained finding the G-spot, the origin of female ejaculation, the cycle of arousal, the precise location of the clitoris, the "myth of porn" — "Sex isn't always really hard non-stop pounding" — techniques for lasting longer and ways to achieve multiple orgasms.

In closing, Solot offered the "Clit Notes" version of "So You Want to Have an Orgasm?" (see left). Solot and Miller concluded holding hands onstage, expressing their gratitude that Solot had survived breast cancer long enough to be able to have so many great experiences and encouraging Middlebury students to have enjoyable, safe, consensual sex soon, because one never knows how many days he or she has left.

Overall, the attendees left I ♥ Female Orgasm feeling satisfied.

"It was informative and comical," Raina Lynn Crawford '10 said. "I'm surprised at how many guys came."

Ben Silton '11 agreed that the talk was enlightening. "You can never learn too much about nature's Rubik's Cube," he said.

MiddSex Guy

by A.J. Meyer

Dear MiddSexGuy, I actually have a question for you, sir. Do you have any suggestions as to how to make men last longer in bed? Personally, I have increased my stamina in the past either by spanking my D earlier in the day or by being somewhat under the influence of drugs (usually alcohol, but I'm still working out the precise mathematical formula to perfect this — I'll let you know when I do) during sexy time. I think it's important, at least in my opinion, for the dude to last long enough for the chick to get her pleasure as well. Maybe this would be a decent topic for your next column? Best, Mr. Pusshound.

I would like to thank Mr. Pusshound for his question. The issue of stamina is one that has troubled men for ages, because it's hard enough to get women to have sex with us in the first place and we want to make sure that we have it again. Basically, no man wants to be bad in bed and stamina presents a major obstacle for many. First, let's remove the x factors from the equation. You are not drunk, you have not had sex or masturbated earlier in the day, you do not have any new-age creams or herbal remedies on hand (which are often 99 percent mental anyway) and sex is in your near future. You get a call and he or she is coming over and it's just you. When things start to heat up, how are you going to savor the flavor and make it last?

First, a key component to sexual health is a strong cardiovascular and respiratory system. Being in control of your breath is an important part of being in control of your body. This control is what leads to good sex. So, learn how to relax and keep your body at a good vibe. Most girls don't seem to go for the over-excited, panting guy that appears to tackle and dry hump her as she comes in. Most women prefer to be seduced a bit and it's tough if you can't even control how fast you're breathing or stop your hands from shaking. Relax and take your time before any hot foreplay or penetration occurs. Take it easy and breathe.

During foreplay, concentrate on her. Many women do not orgasm from vaginal penetration alone, no matter how long you last. Try to bring her to a place where she really wants you. Undressing can be one of the hotter moments in foreplay. Watch and admire or, even better, get in there and help her out. Many guys underestimate the power of the good, deep kiss and the feeling women get when you just caress every part of their body. Heat up that oven. Then, get her started with some smooth manual or oral lovin'.

OK, now you're there and she wants it. She whispers in your ear, "Give it to me, big boy" or something probably not like that and it's game time — wear a condom. Not only should you wear a condom to promote safe sex, but if it's stamina that you're worried about, condoms desensitize your penis and will make you last longer. Kill two birds with one stone. Then, be in control of your body and listen to her. Try to give her what she wants and be both in control and receptive to her comments. Ask her how she wants it and listen to her.

Lastly, if you're in a relationship, figure out what works for you. If you need more lubrication, less lubrication, silk sheets, or whatever, figure it out or work it out. That is one of the most fun parts about sex and relationships — learning what your partner likes and giving it to them.

Again, thank you for your question, Mr. Pusshound. It is important for "the chick to get her pleasure as well," and I think a good combination of foreplay and responsive loving is the answer — although, to each their own. Please keep writing to MiddSexGuy@gmail.com.

So, you want to... have an orgasm?

— Beginner's tips from Dorian Solot, sex educator

- 1 Start by yourself.**
- 2 Befriend your body. "Someone once told us that it's really hard to orgasm when you're sucking in your stomach."**
- 3 Befriend your vulva. "Get out your mirror."**
- 4 Touch yourself experimentally — no goal!**
- 5 Keep touching everyday. Experience whatever happens. Don't give up.**
- 6 Try some good vibrations.**
- 7 Use fantasy.**

winners



&



losers

100 Days

What better time to write what you really think about someone on a mildly offensive part of his or her body?

Public Health

Paul Farmer drew quite the crowd on Saturday, and the Public Health Symposium kicks off today.

PowerShift

Hats off to Middlebury for rallying a record number of students to protest in D.C.

78 Days

Here's hoping the economy bounces back before graduation...

Student Health

The fluctuating temperatures have caused us all to have colds just in time for the first round of midterms.

Saturday's Social Scene

With nearly 1/10 of the College away and 1/4 at 100 Days, undergrads had nothing to do but test the techniques of "I ♥ Female Orgasm."

Speakers stress importance of life balance

By Johanna Interian
STAFF WRITER

If you are too busy or stressed to read this article, then you are part of a campus-wide trend.

While it is nearly impossible to definitively quantify and compare stress levels over the years (attempts have been made at this — read on), there is a general concurrence among students and especially faculty that the workload at Middlebury — and with it, the level of stress among the members of the College community — has been on the rise.

On Wednesday, Feb. 25 an open forum was held to discuss these issues and establish possible solutions. The forum, titled “Work Hard, Play Hard — Stress Hard?”, was advertised throughout the campus and open to all, but eventually attracted only nine students, several of whom were there on behalf of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Campus Stress. Over 20 staff members were in attendance, including professors from various departments, dining services staff and psychologists from the Center for Counseling and Human Resources.

Having the forum during midterms week must have been a deterrent to students whose priorities were to complete papers and study for exams, but others who did not attend simply feel that there is no prospect of change when it comes to stress at Middlebury. Most

students get to Middlebury after years of toiling in advanced classes and intense academic environments and have essentially grown accustomed to the rigorous academic climate that characterizes Middlebury.

“If you’re coming to see me, you’re probably stressed,” joked Dean of the College Gus Jordan as he introduced himself. His position requires him to confront the predicaments stress creates on a daily basis and he is convinced that there is a problem at Middlebury.

“How do we know we’re afflicted? By the lack of counterevidence to suggest stress is not a problem,” said Jordan.

As part of his work study, Michael Nevadomski ’09 has been compiling research to find out whether there has in fact been an increase in the workload at Middlebury in comparison to previous years at the college and also to other NESCAC schools.

“I was asked to pull syllabi from the present day and (more or less) similar classes from 1998 across levels and departments and compare the numbers: increase in pages assigned, essays assigned, different weights, etc,” said Nevadomski. “About halfway through the math and biology departments, I realized how ineffectual this was — as you know, there’s no real way to tell how stressful a class is going to be based on the hard figures.”

His research has led to some conclusive

results, however. Through interviews with professors and students, Nevadomski found that there has been an increase in the amount of “police work” — such as pop quizzes and reaction papers. He has discovered that many professors do not even read or evaluate these assignments, and simply give them to students to make sure they are keeping up with the coursework.

Academics are not the only source of stress, though. Some students in the forum brought up how social stress is just as much a part of being a college student and that it is sometimes harder to deal with than academic stress, which is more predictable and in our control.

Mark Stefani, a neuroscience professor from the psychology department, is interested in the biological and social aspect of stress and is particularly concerned with what he terms the “myth of multi-tasking.”

“Trying to do more in tiny little fragments is a modern-day myth,” he said. He urged students and faculty alike to focus on one activity or assignment and put aside other distractions, such as e-mail and answering phone calls, in order to be more efficient and less prone to last-minute deadlines that will inevitably increase stress.

Sometimes doing more is not always the problem, however. Yonna McShane, director of Learning Resources, pointed out that being

idle is not necessarily more appealing than feeling overextended. “Boredom is an incredibly stressful state,” she said, and encouraged students to find a balance in their commitments on campus.

Elise Cohen ’11 sees benefits in her extracurricular involvements. “Being on the crew team has helped me with time management and is also calming,” said Cohen.

Apart from extracurricular activities serving as therapeutic, other remedies were also discussed. MiDDialogue is proposing a silent lunch area once per week, where interested students can go to eat a quiet meal at a designated area in the dining hall.

C.A. Johnson Fellow in Political Philosophy Kateri Carmola insisted that pass/fail courses should be permitted and also indicated that sometimes students overestimate the importance of grades and professors’ expectations. She also suggested that certain college policies, such as the 24/7 library hours during finals week, inadvertently promote stress.

“What message is this sending; that students should be up at 3 in the morning studying all week?” said Carmola.

There will be a “Managing Academic Stress” workshop on Thursday, April 2 in Library Room 145, where various stress management techniques and relaxation exercises will be taught.

Farmer advocates solidarity in quest for global health

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Acting at home

In a blog posting this fall, echoing the sentiments of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s final State of the Union address, Farmer called for a New Deal for the patients and providers of healthcare today. The United States spends an exorbitant amount of money on its healthcare services compared to other affluent democracies, Farmer said, and gets less return for its investment. Students, like those at Middlebury, could figure prominently in reshaping healthcare nationally.

Finding a cause to be passionate about may be the first step. Farmer himself had his start as a student journalist at Duke, a position which sent him across the state to work with a community of migrant farm workers, among them Haitians. He believes it was this type of social work that led him to Haiti, and ultimately to his life’s work.

“Here we are in snowy winter wonderland, with your own ski mountain, covered bridges, forests and a Quidditch team, joked Farmer. “It’s like Hogwarts, Jr. or something. But there is in this state a serious struggle to make sure that everybody in Vermont has access to decent healthcare.”

Farmer mentioned Vermont Workers’ Center, which he had just been examining on his computer, as one of many groups trying to advance universal healthcare. “Young people who are

privileged,” he proffered, who have learned how to think and write critically — “why shouldn’t you get involved in that?”

PIH’s mission statement claims to offer solidarity instead of simply charity. And it is solidarity — that malediction in the eyes of cost-effectivising economists — that students need most.

“I don’t think there’s anything wrong with charity,” he said when I asked him. “I believe it’s a virtuous thing. If you see someone outside in this weather who is cold and you give that person a coat, that’s not social justice work; that’s not fighting for the right to warm clothing in cold climates; but it’s a wonderful charitable act.”

It’s not that Farmer has anything against charity. “But for us to be able to have basic rights, for people to have the right to healthcare, decent housing or a job, you have to replace charity with other more noble sentiments — and it’s solidarity that may be the most noble human sentiment,” he said.

“Think about it,” he continued. “The idea that ‘yes, I’m having trouble, but I should be worried about other people in trouble too.’ I think there’s a lot of that out there and we should draw on that. Something like solidarity we can not only work for but also build into policies.”

I can tell my 15 minutes with Farmer are rapidly dwindling. As an open-minded atheist facing impending unemployment, I’m ready to get some religion. or at least hear about it — if someone has had a religious experience, certainly it must be Paul Farmer.

“Are you a religious person?” I finally muster. “Do you believe in God?”

“None of your business!” he cackled, taking up a fork in his left hand to strike the air in front of him. He paused for a moment, before assuming a more serious tone. “A sentiment of belief in something beyond yourself?” he let his question ring. “Oh yeah, for sure I have that. On some days that might be a belief, for example, in your generation, fighting to make the world a better place. That’s a sentiment that borders on the religious.”

“There are other times when the very fact that you see something happen so horrible that you may question the existence of God, means of course that you do believe that there is something beyond humans,” explained Farmer. “But I’m not a philosopher and I’m not a theologian. When I use theology ... it’s not so much as a practitioner of theology than as someone who is inspired by reading theology and understanding how people view their relationship to the world and the universe in general. There’s a very profound spirituality to be had in celebrating something like the Golden Rule or working on behalf of other people in more difficult circumstances. So to me, the answer to that question is ‘yes,’ though other people might disagree.”

One thing is certain — whether Farmer is speaking about a belief in God or a belief in universal healthcare, he has a certain exhilarating demeanor — a certain spirit one might say — that makes you think you’re crazy for not feeling exactly the same way.

LOOKING BACK

The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

1970. Richard Nixon was President. The voting age was lowered to 18. Earth Day was celebrated for the first time by millions of Americans. The largest rock festival ever to take place occurred at the Isle of Wight Festival — 600,000 people attended. Paul McCartney announced that The Beatles disbanded and Simon and Garfunkel released their final album together, “Bridge Over Troubled Water.” At Kent State University, National Guardsmen fired into a crowd of antiwar demonstrators and killed four students. The Boston Bruins won the Stanley Cup. The average income per year was \$9,350. A gallon of gas was 36 cents and a stamp was only six cents. People all across America could not stop singing Edwin Starr’s “War.” War, it ain’t nothing/But a heartbreaker/War, friend only to the undertaker ... Aaaaah, war-huh/Good God y’all/What is it good for?/Absolutely nothing!

At Middlebury College, students were debating the war, college education and fraternities while making sure they were well energized with meat protein ...

“Our whole society today is a vast experiment in which the stakes are high — will we survive or not? The liberal arts college is a part of this experiment. Will it be a life-raft or a center of backward, dying rhetoric?”

— “Elitism and the Private College”
by Eric Samp

“He [Frederick Cabot] said the EPC [Educational Policy Committee] was also considering a ‘temporary proposal’ to require students to fulfill only three of the four group requirements. The Language and Natural Science Divisions oppose this proposal because they feel it discriminates against them. They each believe that their division would be the one avoided by the students.”

— “Educational Policy Group Considers Relaxing Divisional Requirements” by John Bell

“MARRIED STUDENTS: Reserve an apartment in town for next year. Do it today or there may be none left next fall (15 to choose from).”

— Advertisement

“It’s Spring! Time for a Protein Diet. (Meat is protein). [Come to] Art & Andy’s Steak House.”

— Advertisement

“We’re trying to change the throw-away mentality in American society, e.g. no deposit bottles. The resource base just can’t take it and there’s no place to put the waste. An average person in America disposes of 6.5 pounds of solid waste every day. America has six percent of the world’s population yet uses over half of the world’s resources. The American system has got to go — it’s too exploitative.

We’re trying to push towards recycling of resources — the reinstitution of returnable bottles. They should be more careful of

what they throw away. A good motto is, ‘Use it up, wear it out, and make it do.’ The idea that convenience should be the foremost consideration in structuring your society has got to go.”

— Hall, in “Environmental Quality Activist plans Conference, Anti-Pollution Campaign” by Ciddy Aring

“Watch the [fraternity] houses, watch them for changes. The fraternity system is going to survive, and that is going to have to mean change. Watch for the houses getting together, under the nervous glances and perhaps active opposition of an administration that will do anything to insure the success of its multi-million dollar experiment in social control ... Big Brother is sitting in Old Chapel. Believe it.”

— Jay Glassman, President, IFC in “Letters ...”

— Archived by Rachael Jennings,
Features Editor

Will France have its own Obama?

Anthropologists convene to discuss race issues in politics

By Austin Davis
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Feb. 26, the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs sponsored the second meeting of American anthropologists specializing in France and French anthropologists studying America. This culminated in a public roundtable discussion of what Obama represents for the French, and the implications of his election in France, entitled "When Will France Have Its Own Obama?" The discussion featured David Berliss, associate professor and chair of the department of anthropology at the University of New Orleans; Beth Epstein, assistant director of New York University in Paris; and Anne Raulin, professor of anthropology at the Université de Paris X; William Poulin-Deltour, assistant professor of French at the College and the master of ceremonies for the event, opened with thought-provoking poll results: while 80 percent of France is willing to vote for a black President, only 56 percent would vote for a person of North African, sub-Saharan African, or Caribbean descent. Considering that, the election of President Barack Obama in America has brought the question of race to the forefront of the French national conversation.

Epstein, having lived in Paris for over 11 years, dissected that very conversation. For France, race has long been a lens through which to judge the United States — their status as a safe haven for black Americans following the First World War has been

trumpeted with pride. Black American soldiers fighting on French soil received an exceptionally warm welcome from the French civilians, who at times even preferred the black Americans to their white compatriots. This contrasted so strongly with the racism of the United States and the U.S. Army that it gave rise to a powerful myth of French race-blindness. The reality in France was less egalitarian: native black Frenchmen were considered savage, North Africans endured everything from obvious discrimination to outright cruelty and the horrors of the Algerian War "muddied" France's spotless image. Officially, there are no races in France, as every individual is seen as a citizen of the republic instead of as a part of a racial, ethnic, or cultural group. The election of Barack Obama, however, stirred critiques about the effectiveness of this system, with some social scientists calling for a more American-style recognition of distinct races and ethnicities.

Berliss believes that Obama's real strength lies in his ability to reach out and represent a massive audience, reaching across generational, racial and ethnic lines. The French Obama would need to do something similar by speaking across France's unspoken ethnicities, making a normally apathetic crowd care about creative urban policies and shaking up the educational system. Moreover, Obama's message of hope, his significant policy break from the Reagan years and his efforts to reconnect citizens to their government were just as important

to his campaign as his post-racial message. Berliss ended by noting the limitations of both the American and French governments, positing that whomever is elected to office "is still the president of France or the president of America," bound by their laws and unique constrictions.

Raulin concluded the discussion by providing her anthropological perspective of Obama as a French native. She sees a revolution in conversation occurring in France. Never before have people talked so openly about race and ethnicity, especially in schools, in the sciences and in government. She listed five words that, before Obama's election, were completely taboo in French society: *ethnicity, community, diaspora, ghetto and minorities*. "Diaspora" and "ghetto" were seen as the sole purview of specific ethnicities and were thus avoided. The French did not admit the existence of identities that competed with traditional French national and local identities and so refused to use the word "community" and the concept of "ethnicity" was viewed with suspicion, as it unnecessarily created divisions among people, identifying them as "ethnic individuals" instead of "human beings." While those still remain difficult ideas to discuss in France, Obama's election transformed the word "minority," helping it "creep into the political vocabulary, scientific vocabulary, and the media scene." While no one present answered the roundtable's title questions, they did provide significant contextual information for the question.

World Camp seeks new volunteers

World Camp for Kids is a non-profit organization started by seven UNC students in 2001. Today, the World Camp for Kids headquarters are located in Ashville, NC and the programs are run almost entirely by college student volunteers. After visiting South Africa in 2001 and witnessing the issues, the original volunteers decided to do something about them. Researching ways to spread awareness, ten UNC students traveled all around Africa before settling on Malawi as the location for their work in 2002. Programs soon expanded as well and in 2006 trips to Honduras began as did trips to India in 2007. *The Campus's* Liya Gao sat down with World Camp recruiter Baker Henson.

The Middlebury Campus: So what does World Camp do at these locations?

Baker Henson: Volunteers travel to schools and teach students anywhere from age 8-18 about issues such as HIV/AIDS, gender issues, deforestation and more. Our main priority is to spread awareness to kids living in third world countries.

MC: So how many volunteers do you need?

BH: We are looking for 50 volunteers total for each of the three locations (Malawi, Honduras, India) for two sessions.

MC: When do the sessions run?

BH: They are five weeks each in the summer. The first session runs from the end of May to the end of June and the second runs through the month on July.

MC: What is the preparation like for the sessions?

BH: Once you are accepted, we will send you material to learn before you arrive on site. For example, basic biology, if you are to teach about HIV/AIDS or alternative energy. There is also a four-day orientation at the site prior to session.

MC: Is there any time off for the volunteers?

BH: Yes, there is a three-day educational camp for the volunteers, as well as breaks on the weekends for tourist activities.

MC: Where do the volunteers stay?

BH: Volunteers stay with local families for two days and later in residences that we provide.

MC: How much is the volunteer fee?

BH: The fee is \$2,700 for Malawi and Honduras and \$2,300 for India. However, this amount can be fundraised, which is what many volunteers end up doing.

MC: Where can I find the application?

BH: Students can find the application as well as information about the program online at www.worldcampforkids.org. We are accepting applications until May 1.

— Interview conducted by Liya Gao, Staff Writer



Courtesy

Ben-official



by Ben Benson

With midterms fast approaching, I know I'm not the only one playing catch-up on readings and assignments. Often this requires staying up late, waking up early and a little extra focus in class. And where do most people turn when they need a little boost? Caffeine. It's common knowledge that caffeine helps people stay up later and operate on a little less sleep than usual, and nearly 275 million Americans drink caffeinated beverages regularly.

The two most popular sources of caffeine are tea and coffee. Aside from water, tea is the most consumed beverage on the planet. The amount of caffeine in coffee and tea varies greatly, but typically a cup of coffee is considered to have around 100 mg of caffeine while a cup of tea has around 60 mg of caffeine. In comparison, a 12 oz. Coke has about 35 mg of caffeine, and a Red Bull 80 mg. But how much is helpful, and how much is too much?

Typically two to three cups of coffee, or 200-300 mg of caffeine a day, is considered a moderate amount and perfectly healthy. Aside from the commonly known benefits of caffeine, such as increased alertness and decreased drowsiness, caffeine has been recently found to have several other benefits. For one, caffeine increases the metabolic rate by 10 percent over the following several hours after consumption, and even helps with the digestion of some fatty acids. Caffeine allows the body to burn fatty acids 30 percent more efficiently. Also, even though caffeine won't speed up the sobriety process, it can help with a hangover. A hangover headache is caused by enlarged cranial blood vessels and caffeine is known to constrict these vessels. For the same reason, caffeine can be found in several over-the-counter painkillers. Lastly, many sports nutritionists agree that caffeine can delay muscle fatigue if taken prior to exercise and can increase muscle recovery if taken after exercise, yet frequently very large amounts are needed (more than 500 mg) to feel this effect. These levels of caffeine may have several negative side effects so large doses may not be such a good idea.

Ever gotten the shakes or jitters from too many late night coffees? Excess caffeine can cause a variety of issues from sleeplessness to anxiety to abnormal heart rhythms. Also, dehydration is known to be a common side effect of caffeine. It's not the actual chemical that causes dehydration, but caffeine increases blood flow to the kidneys. This causes the kidneys to work faster than normal, processing urine at an increased rate, leading to more frequent trips to the bathroom. Dehydration can be easily overcome by consuming water or other caffeine-free beverages, but not much will help with trying to avoid an overactive bladder.

The most troublesome quality of caffeine is its addictive nature. Caffeine, like cocaine and heroin, increase the body's dopamine levels. Dopamine affects the body by activating parts of the brain that control other functions like sleep, mood and attention. The effects are much duller than those of heroin and cocaine, but the body still enjoys the boost. If you think you might be consuming caffeine in excess, try gradually reducing how much caffeine you consume in a day. This may help avoid the withdrawal feelings of irritability, grogginess and headaches.

For tea lovers, a way to reduce the amount of caffeine in a cup of tea is to reduce steeping time. There are several types of decaf herbal teas. Caffeine is beneficial, just be aware of how much you're consuming. For a chart of the approximate mg of caffeine in different types of tea, coffee, chocolate and other beverages, check out the Web site www.faqs.org/nutrition/CaDe/Caffeine.html.

Social scene suffers at the hands of budget cuts

By Canem Ozyildirim
STAFF WRITER

As the College proceeds with budget cuts in the face of a global economic crisis, the buzz among students grows louder each day about what the College's next step should be and how the administration should prioritize. Among students' primary concerns are the effects that the budget cuts will have on Middlebury's social life. It is clear that, in the following months, the administration will have to choose between tradition and fiscal rationality when implementing new budget cuts.

One thing questioned by many students is the efficiency of commons-organized parties. Commons parties represent an established College tradition, originating from an honorable and cohesive goal to provide students with an all-inclusive medium to socialize, where alcohol consumption is monitored. Yet the general belief among students is that the reach of these events is very limited.

"Not a lot of people go to commons parties and they are not a huge source of attraction," said Nick Spengler '09.

The quandary, it seems, is whether to attempt to make the commons parties appealing to a more diverse group of students or to simply reduce spending on these functions for the duration of the financial distress. (It

is worth noting that the Commons budgets are distributed from the Student Activities Fee, and therefore cannot be reallocated to some other areas of student life that may need the funds more, e.g., Dining Services.)

Another issue of conversation with respect to social life on campus has been the future of 51 Main at the Bridge. After President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's Feb. 23 campus-wide e-mail announced the Budget Oversight Committee's recommendation to shut down 51 Main unless it "records two consecutive months of profitability between now and December 2009," many students became worried about how the budget cuts will affect the fledgling venue. Farhan Ahmed '09 questioned why the College was considering shutting down 51 Main when it was specifically constructed to facilitate interaction between students and members of the surrounding community. "I do not understand why they are trying to take that specified donation money away from its purpose, which it is fulfilling beautifully," said Ahmed.

Haseeb Humayoon '09 also opposed the possible shutdown of 51 Main, describing the social space as "a nascent effusion of stu-

dents, staff members and young professors which enhances the feeling of community and conversation in a way that no other setting in town or on campus does." Humayoon suggested that, instead of considering a shutdown of 51 Main, the College "iden-

trification," he said, "although, in a time of economic depression, it just looks like they are ejaculating money into the sky. I have got nothing against fireworks, but ..."

Students can take advantage of the College's transparency in handling the economic crisis by voicing their opinions about the budget cuts on the College Web site, at <http://blogs.middlebury.edu/budget>. Most students, it seems, are willing to compromise and give up certain privileges in order to help the College during these troubling times. Alexandra Fisher '10 suggested

changes that could be made at the Grille in order to make students' favorite late-night snack destination viable as a profitable business.

"Raising prices at the Grille, and limiting the hours to only those during which the most food is sold, could possibly greatly increase the establishment's revenue, or at least decrease its losses," said Fisher. "I love my Dr. Feelgood just as much as the next person, but I'd be willing to pay a little bit more for it if I knew that I was possibly saving something else from getting cut out of the school's budget."

Fireworks are festive ... Although, in a time of economic depression, it just looks like they are ejaculating money into the sky.

— Nick Spengler '09

tify certain eccentric initiatives on campus which have small target groups or affect a small demographic but drain the College's resources."

Although it can hardly be categorized as eccentric, the fireworks during this year's Winter Carnival drew the ire of many members of the College community as one of those initiatives that drain the College's resources in a time of financial uncertainty. Spengler was among those students doubting the appropriateness of Winter Carnival's fireworks.

"Fireworks are festive and nice for cel-

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The Middlebury Campus

Article by Toren Hardee
Photography by Grace Duggan

Philadelphia-based DJ and producer Ramble John Krohn, better known by his stage name RJD2, played a sold-out show in the newly-renovated McCullough Social Space on Friday to positive student reception. Before RJD2 took the stage, crowds filtered in and were warmed up by an energetic opening set by Bearplane, the alias for the rave-esque electronica of Philippe Bronchtein '10 (who is also musically active on campus in an indie folk project under the moniker Hip Hatchet). While the mood of Bearplane's set was more reminiscent of Gregg "Girl Talk" Gillis's fondly-remembered show in McCullough just over a year ago, it became clear as soon as RJD2 started performing that he would offer something different — an analog alternative of sorts to the digitally-based DJ-ing that constitutes the vast majority of what we are exposed to in 2009.

There was no laptop onstage during RJD2's set. The closest thing was his AKAI MPC (Music Production Center) series sampler, which he used to playfully reconstruct his songs from their various elements in real time. However, the majority of his time was spent expertly manning the three turntables set up alongside the MPC-box; adjusting levels, displaying his scratching abilities and scurrying back and forth between the tables and a large stack of vinyl from which his songs cull their countless samples.

His focus in moving constantly from one task to another is

quite amazing to watch, and it is no doubt all part of what RJD2 has created as his live performance, for the audience's sake. A DJ of his experience is surely aware of the potential for boredom of a DJ-only concert, because when artists achieve popularity as widespread as RJD2 or Girl Talk have, concert attendees arrive expecting something more than just a dance party. They have come to see a *concert*. The artists are expected to display some degree of performance, some show of skill or a fresh recombination of their music's elements.

For Girl Talk, this means the raucous and unique live experience that has become as famous a part of his reputation as his music itself. Without the aid of a computer, RJD2 provides an interesting contrast to Girl Talk's genre-transcending rave style. RJ's show involves more live recreation and experimentation with his songs, and less undressing/crowd-surfing/drinking beer/hooksing up with the audience members he has let on stage. His performance is certainly engrossing to watch for any fan of music, beat-driven or otherwise.

By no means, though, was RJD2's show an overly cerebral experience. Shortly into the show, RJ had the moderately-sized crowd moving fervently to his gritty drumbeats and basslines, hands in the air, cheers circulating upon hearing the opening strains of favorites like "The Horror" and "Ghostwriter" from his much-loved 2002 solo debut, "Deadringer." His sophomore

album, "Since We Last Spoke," was equally well represented, with highlights like "Exotic Talk" and "Iced Lighting" slyly interwoven and recombined with other tracks. Left out of the picture — to the relief of many — was his most recent release, 2007's "The Third Hand," for which RJD2 switched labels and ditched hip-hop based material for middle-of-the-road, rock-influenced songs penned and sung by RJ himself. His original label, New York-based Definitive Jux, is known for its gritty production and left-field rappers like Aesop Rock and Cannibal Ox, and RJD2 fit snugly into their roster. On the other hand, his new label — XL Recordings — is a highly successful independent label with a more diverse roster of artists (including M.I.A., Radiohead, Vampire Weekend, Beck and The White Stripes) and a much less specific sonic identity. The lukewarm reception of "The Third Hand" by critics and fans showed that this decision to switch directions was perhaps a bit misinformed.

But RJD2 quelled the fears of fans of his first two releases by keeping the fun alive in an entertaining and polished — if on the short side — performance. From the incongruous gunfights and horror-film scenes projected on the screen behind him to the non-sequiturs uttered between songs ("Who here is into government bailouts?"), there was mindless fun for those who wanted it. And for those who wanted more, there was the chance to observe a master of his craft at work.

editors' picks

06

Back to Modernity
Axinn 229
12:30 p.m.

Laura Mulvery, professor of film and media studies at the University of London, will give a lecture concerning film in the age of digital technology.

06

Evidence
MCFA Dance
Theatre
8 p.m.

Evidence Dance Company returns to Middlebury to perform the new ballet "One Shot," choreographed by Ronald K. Brown.

Johnson Symposium
MCFA
9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

A symposium from the students and faculty of the Department of History of Art and Architecture, cosponsored by the College Museum of Art.

07

07

The Orphanage
Dana
Auditorium
3 and 8 p.m.

This atmospheric thriller, the debut of director Juan Antonio Bayona, protégé of Guillermo del Toro, received the Best Film award at the Barcelona Film Awards.



for the record

by Alex Blair

Lily Allen, one of Britain's most popular and controversial pop stars, isn't afraid to speak her mind. Whether she's talking about her drug use or the shortcomings of the British government, Allen does so in an unabashed manner. For her 2006 debut album, "Alright, Still," Allen wore her personality on her sleeve, balancing hardcore attitude with bouncy pop songs. Hits like "Smile" and "LDN" were bright and catchy on the surface, but revealed ironic and biting elements through their lyrics. This formula made "Alright, Still" one of the best albums of '06, so it comes as a surprise to find that Allen's newest release, "It's Not Me, It's You," has moved in quite a different direction. Instead of spiteful rants against her ex-boyfriends, Allen sings about social issues, God and love. To fans of Britain's wild girl, this more serious approach might sound shocking, but there's no need to worry. The album, for the most part, is a success.

The album's synth-heavy opener, "Everyone's At It," makes it clear that the ska-influenced sound of "Alright, Still" has been replaced by electropop. Besides a change in musical style, the song also represents a new lyrical direction for Allen. On the track, she ridicules society for its abuse of depression medications and searches for an answer to this popular addiction: "From grown politicians/To young adolescents/Prescribing themselves/Anti-depressants/How can we start to tackle the problem/If you don't put your hands up/And admit that you're on them." While the music on tracks like "Everyone's At It" and the anti-materialism anthem, "The Fear," are catchy and lively, their lyrics often feel preachy and awkward, especially coming from someone who has become a popular tabloid figure due to her drug use and fame. On "Him," the album's most intolerable track, Allen wonders what God thinks of humanity and concludes that he believes it "has been going on too long." Here, Allen abandons any semblance of her familiar self and instead channels the self-righteousness of Bono. That's not to say she can't write a good topical song. The aptly titled "F--- You" is a scathing reproach of George W. Bush and conservatism in general, and "22" is a harsh condemnation of the pressures society puts on women. Both songs work because they balance social commentary with funny and abrasive lyrics.

Allen briefly returns to her old self with wonderful songs like the western-inspired "Not Fair" and the accordion romp "Never Gonna Happen." In the former, which sounds like it's straight out of an old Clint Eastwood cowboy yarn, Allen complains to her boyfriend that he doesn't satisfy her sexually: "There's just one thing/That's getting in the way/When we go up to bed/You're just no good/It's such a shame." In "Never Gonna Happen," she dismisses an overbearing ex with biting wit and charm. Both songs are classic Lily Allen and, along with "F--- You," provide the album with some much-needed edginess.

The album's two best tracks come, surprisingly, in the form of love ballads. "Who'd Have Known" fuses a gentle piano with electronica undertones while creating vivid images of a blossoming relationship: "And even though it's moving forward/There's just the right amount of awkward/And today you accidentally/Called me baby." Allen delivers these lines with such a genuine air of love that you can't help but feel happy for her. "Chinese" is heavier on synthesizers and paints a portrait of a woman who is far away from her boyfriend, desperately yearning for a simple evening with him eating Chinese food and watching TV. Both songs are the emotional core of "It's Not Me, It's You" and will hopefully point Allen in a new, more heartfelt direction for her next album.



own one-woman show.

The Middlebury Campus: So tell me about this project.

Sheyenne Brown: This project is my senior work for theater. It's called "A Colored Girl's College Tour." It's a one-woman show that I've written and will be acting in next week. It's a show that's semi-autobiographical and it's about my journey as an African-American woman at Middlebury College and at Spelman College, trying to find my voice in terms of what that means being at each of these institutions. Middlebury is a top-tier school that's predominantly white, while Spelman College is a historically black college. It's about how both affected me when I got back home to NYC. I'm a changed person, and that has sort of created who I am right now.

TC: When you were planning this show, did you have a specific idea of what it would be like? Did that idea change as you went on?

SB: This show has changed so much. When I proposed it last March it was supposed to be a show based on interviews that I conducted with other women of color and I was going to be completely removed from it. I conducted so many interviews and for some reason it wasn't clicking. I talked to my advisor and we couldn't figure out how to make it work. Towards the end of last semester we decided, what if you make it about your experience, and include these other women along the way? So it became a hybrid. I have some interviews included in the show, but it's sort of from my perspective. The writing has been extremely hard because of the person I am as a writer. You know, you write very beautifully and all these descriptive sentences and then when it's time to perform it, that doesn't work. This has sort of been a growing-up process as an artist.

TC: Did doing this project help you deal with your own experiences?

SB: It did. It helped me to process. This is not just my senior project; it's like closure for me. It wasn't necessarily an easy four years, and I've included a lot of incidents that have happened at schools that are specifically pertinent to race and how I've never really processed it. I thought back then, when I was dealing with it, that I was doing something about it. But in reflection it's like, wow, I was really avoiding this.

TC: Do you think your show will help other Middlebury students deal with race?

Spotlight on... Sheyenne Brown '09

In her senior theater project, Sheyenne Brown '09 is confronting the issue of race at Middlebury College. Brown, a theater major from New York City, has attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga., as well as Middlebury. This weekend, she takes on the ultimate challenge of

theater: performing her

SB: I do, you know. I feel like if people don't receive it well at least they'll be more educated about it. There are a lot of times when people just don't know what's going on. It's not that they're turning a blind eye or indifferent, they just have no idea. I feel like the way my show is performed is not an attack, it's like, "Look what I went through and I want you to hear about it, and if it changes you in any way, that's for the better."

TC: How well do you think Middlebury handles issues of race and minorities?

SB: That is a very good question. I would say it needs improvement. I'm not sure what else to say because a lot of times the burden is on the student body or the cultural organizations to try to educate other people or to figure out why something is happening, and I'm not sure how the institution can step in and intervene without seeming like too authoritative of a figure. It's been something that I've been trying to figure out. It's a really tough question given that Middlebury's sort of small but spread-out, and things never seem as big as they should be. There are things I've come across as isolated incidents but it's really happening fairly frequently. Every semester there's some sort of racial incident, and I guess that's to be expected, but it's treated as if it's not a big deal and I feel like sometimes it should be.

TC: So, you're a theater major. Where are you planning to take that in life?

Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

SB: I have not quite decided yet. I hope to perform later on in life, but I know immediately after graduation I'll be teaching English in middle schools in Newark, N.J., through Teach For America. Maybe after that I may want to start performing and start getting into acting. If my show is so relevant, somehow, maybe I'll just do it again outside of Middlebury College.

TC: Do you think the current economy makes it hard to find work in theater?

SB: I wouldn't say that, necessarily. Just in my experience with theater majors or being at a liberal arts college in general, we have all these majors and not too many are preparing us for a specific track. Theater majors are sort of prepared for anything because we have that experience performing. But this economy's terrible for anyone right now.

TC: Do you have a message that you would like for people to take away from your performance?

SB: Don't be afraid to speak out when you're uncomfortable, or speak out on someone else's behalf if you're uncomfortable for them. Explore what it is that keeps you from doing it, figure it out for yourself and act on how you feel you should proceed. Saying something is always better than not opening your mouth at all. If you don't talk, how will people know?

A Colored Girl's College Tour will run Thursday, March 5, through Saturday, March 7, at 8 p.m. at 51 Main on the Bridge.

— Emma Stanford, Arts Editor

INVESTING JAZZ INTO STUDENTS' HANDS

This past Thursday, students and townspeople alike spun around the McCullough Social Space to the jazz improvisations of The Sound Investment — an all-student group led by Dick Forman. Doing classics as well as contemporary numbers, the impressive ensemble put forth an energy that left dancers on the floor breathless, sweaty and exhilarated. While all the musicians demonstrated solid skills, the saxophone section and the sultry vocal stylings of Elizabeth Goethe '10 stood out as the highlights of the evening's performance.



Scott Wehrwein

College radio tunes into oral tradition

By Dana Walters
STAFF WRITER

A couple of weeks ago, a somewhat ambiguous advertisement ran in the weekly SGA email. "Are you interested in writing, journalism, or creative nonfiction?" it said, "Do you enjoy the features that air on NPR or in podcasts around the web? Do you have a story to tell, or like hearing the sound of your own voice?"

The message announced the arrival of Xander Manshel's '09 new show, "Speak! Radio," a program grounded in the sentiment, "Everyone has a story to tell..." While the blurb was nonspecific, it nevertheless garnered responses. Some people responded wanting to be extremely involved, and some merely knew one tale and felt compelled to share it. No matter the nature of the replies, Manshel was enthused about all of them because, as he said, "[These] stories came from people's personal passions." Those that responded to Manshel's advertisement were truly invested in their material. As opposed to a typical assignment from a professor, "You get a different vibe when people come with a story," he said.

Indeed, the passion inherent in the stories could be felt as Manshel spoke about his brainchild. The senior English major described his show as "narrative nonfiction and radio journalism." From travel narratives to personal memoirs to people's opinions on and around campus, the program is a mélange of stories and profiles, put together by an ardent group of students "with a variety of interests," but who all share the enthusiasm for storytelling that Manshel communicates with such vigor.

While stories can appear in many forms, Manshel was attracted to the medium of radio for the inherent power it holds, for that little something extra that springs from recording a person's voice as opposed to just

reading what they have to say. He described the different effect as illustrated by a piece he put together for Vermont Public Radio about Al Sharpton's visit.

"You can write something in print," he said, "but hearing the rustle and murmur of kids [as they prepare for the Reverend to speak] is different."

The idea that would become "Speak! Radio" arose out of Manshel's participation last summer at the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. There, he heard a talk about radio storytelling and soon became hooked, joining it with his long-time passion for narrative nonfiction. After pitching the idea, the College made it easy for him to implement it. They gave him an office in the Old Stone Mill, an area where he can work on his program and hold meetings with his staff. "Middlebury's been great in helping me pursue what I want to pursue," he said.

While attempting to tell stories, "Speak! Radio" does not dabble in politics or controversy, and the only loyalty Manshel holds is to the nature of the story itself. Approaching each segment from different angles, the staff tries to make each story complete from every direction. One such piece, which Andrew

These stories came from people's personal passions.
— Xander Manshel '09

Powers '11.5 is currently working on, entails looking at a homeless couple found living in the basement of Gifford. At first, Powers was just focusing on the story itself, but in the process of working on it he discovered that there was more he needed to investigate. He ended up examining homelessness in Addison County as a general theme.

In addition, "Speak! Radio" will air a piece called "Obituaries," based on a video project Louis Lobel '08.5 did for Sight and Sound II, in which students envision what

performance), a young skateboarder who gravitates toward the "throw-away kids" that hang out at the local skate park from whose name the film's title is derived. Hanging out there one night, he is invited by an elder statesman (of sorts) to hop a boxcar to grab some beer. It is here that Alex has an encounter with a railroad security guard which sets the events of the film in motion.

"I'm relaying this narrative information as if it is temporally sequential. It isn't. Alex's culpability in the death of the security guard is hopelessly ambiguous. I've seen the film twice and I'm still not sure whether he was responsible or not. To a fairly significant degree, though, his guilt or innocence is unimportant; what is important here, as in Van Sant's "Elephant," is how young people deal with death and other societal pressures. If that sounds dismissive, I don't mean it to, because these themes fit Van Sant like a glove and play to his strengths as a director.

Gus Van Sant is a director whose heart has always been in formal experimentation and narrative complexities. His interest is less in realism and more in the (occasionally) hallucinatory realm of a character's psyche, and that side of Van Sant's personality is on full display here, perhaps more so than in any of his films since "My Own Private Idaho." He mixes mediums, shooting the preponderance of the film on 35 mm, but splicing in skateboard footage that was shot on Super-8 film. These bits of spliced-in skateboard footage provide the most interesting formal experiment in the film, as they appear to be placed in the film for no rhyme or reason. They simply exist, coming to the surface as if they are part of the unconsciousness inherent in all members of the skateboarding subculture that Van Sant captures so well.

This desire to capture the interior of his characters provides Van Sant with an opportunity for further experimenta-



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

Xander Manshel '09 records a story written by Nick Spengler '09 for the new program Speak! Radio.

their own death notices would say, and another called "New Beginnings," in which the writers explore various ways in which people must begin again. Another possibility includes an item called "The Buzz" as a forum for students to voice their opinions on seemingly random topics.

Whether this style of radio has long-term viability at Middlebury is difficult to say, but it seems certain that storytelling itself will always resonate truly with students. Manshel feels optimistic about the response the show will receive, stating that a place exists for it in a community as small, and

sometimes as claustrophobic, as the campus and surrounding town. Powers also believes in the radio program's mission.

"Our community is full of intelligent, charismatic people with diverse experiences," said Powers, "and we all have stories to tell." To hear those stories, just tune in.

"Speak! Radio" airs on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 4:30 PM on WRMC 91.1. If you are interested in helping out or merely have a story to tell, contact Manshel at amanshel@middlebury.edu. Every week, podcasts will be broadcast at <http://speakradio.blogspot.com>.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Jason Gutierrez

MOVIE | Paranoid Park
DIRECTOR | Gus Van Sant
STARRING | Gabe Nevins, Taylor Momsen and Daniel Liu

This first paragraph is going to be a bit pretentious, but bear with me. Movie titles are an important venue from which audiences can glean information about a film; the story, a genre, or simply a mood can be pulled out of the title. It helps audiences know what they're getting into. Every now and then, however, a film comes along whose title says more about the film's themes than its plot; a title that retroactively seems to tell the audience more about the film than reading a dozen reviews. Gus Van Sant's "Paranoid Park" is just such a title, at once saying nothing about the film, but also evoking the youthful isolation, guilt and paranoia that are the film's core themes. It's a subtle feature of the film, but then again, the strongest features of "Paranoid Park" are its amazing subtlety and the quiet grace with which it tries to capture the interior of the characters that populate its setting.

"Paranoid Park" tells the story of Alex (Gabe Nevins, who gives a fantastic



Courtesy

tion, using sound design, soundscapes and source music (which runs the gamut from Beethoven to Nino Rota to Elliott Smith) as an opportunity to try to ensnare the guilt and/or disaffection of Alex and his friends. The sound design, combined with Van Sant's always interesting imagery, creates a dream-like atmosphere that reaches Lynchian proportions. When we are finally shown the encounter with the railroad security guard, it is one of the most genuinely shocking moments I've seen in quite some time, but it is also oddly foreign, as if the audience is allowed to drift through this dream world for most of the film. When confronted with something as grisly as the security guard's death it feels less like narrative information being provided to the audience and more like one more moment spent in Alex's jumbled and guilt-ridden unconscious.

Van Sant provided moviegoing audiences with two films in 2008. The first was

this under-recognized gem; the other was the overblown and overrated "Milk." Where "Paranoid Park" is subtly affecting, "Milk" telegraphs its emotional peaks and valleys. Where "Paranoid Park" focuses on capturing the interior of its protagonist, "Milk" has no time or interest in exploring Harvey Milk beyond reducing him to his achievements. In a way the aims of the two films are so different that comparing them does neither justice, but they are both the works of the same filmmaker and worlds apart. One is a fantastic film of youthful alienation that eschews Hollywood formula in favor of something different. The other is mechanical mediocrity. It's a bummer most people saw the other. Luckily, though, "Paranoid Park" is on DVD in the library. Check it out, because it deserves more than to simply be thought of as an exercise in formal experimentation. It ranks among the best work of a fantastic director.

Women's hockey slides by the Williams Ephs

By Alex Lovett-Woodsum
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's hockey team opened up the NESCAC tournament with a solid quarterfinal win over Williams this Saturday, Feb. 28, out-shooting the Ephs by a 47-11 margin.

This was the team's third time facing off with the Ephs this season, with all three games ending in wins for the Middlebury squad. Middlebury goaltender Lexi Bloom '11 made 11 stops on the afternoon, while Williams' Sarah Plunkett managed to make an impressive 44 saves after being bombarded with shots by the Panthers all game.

Though the Panthers were close to scoring several times in the first period, Plunkett managed to hold off a number of great shots from the Middlebury offense, including an early shot off the pipe from Ashley Bairos '10 and a tip by Heather Mc-

Cormack '10 that also hit the post. The Panthers' relentless offense outshot the Ephs 19-5 in the first period, but the game remained in a scoreless tie.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Williams	1
Middlebury	3

The teams remained tied for the first 18:34 of the second period, with both teams getting off a number of shots that were stopped by solid goaltending. McCormack finally took a shot that was finished off by Annmarie Cellino '09 for her ninth goal of the year, giving the Panthers a 1-0 advantage late in the second period.

The Panthers' 1-0 lead was quickly erased by Williams five minutes into the final period as Jacqueline Berglass and

Tracey Ferriter overcame the Middlebury defense in a two-on-one, with Berglass netting the goal.

But the Panthers regained the lead just 2:34 later when rookie Maggie Melberg '12 tipped in a shot off of a feed from McCormack.

Melberg, whom Lani Wright '10 described as "a real asset and a great addition to the team," scored her first two career goals in the team's season opener — and her collegiate debut — against Williams, netting the winning goal in that game as well. She is third on the team with 23 points and is tied for first in goals scored with 11.

Bairos described Melberg as "a great person to have on the team. She's going to be a key player for us next year when we lose several high scoring seniors. She and all the other freshmen have contributed greatly this year."

Middlebury's third and final goal of the game came at the 16:05 mark, as McCormack scored off a rebound from Marjie Billings '10, adding her third point of the afternoon and helping to secure the victory.

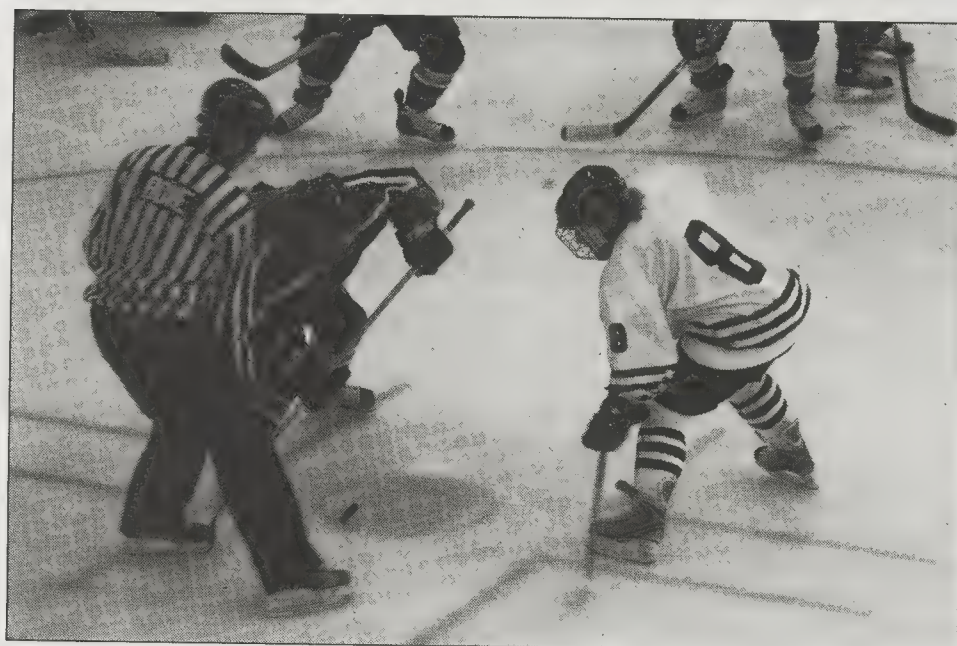
McCormack has been on a hot streak toward the end of the season, scoring an important goal in each of Middlebury's past four games.

"Heather has been playing great all season, and particularly well right now," said Wright. We will certainly be looking for her contributions at NESCACs this coming weekend."



Charlie Wemyss-Dunn

Erika Nakamura '09 bears down on a Williams Eph on Saturday.



Charlie Wemyss-Dunn

Senior forward Molly Vitt '09 challenges a Williams defender at a face off in Saturday's game.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

This week, *The Campus* went where few dare to go — the inside of the hockey locker room — to discover the deepest, darkest secrets of junior forward John Sullivan '10. Teammates AJ Meyer '10 and Charlie "Chuck T" Townsend '10 went head-to-head to determine whether Townsend, with the added advantage of being Sullivan's roommate for the second consecutive year, really knows Sullivan better. It turns out that, rather than take stabs at each other in order to assert dominance and prove their manhood — as is generally the case among *Inside the Locker Room* participants — both Townsend and Meyer took the opportunity to roast Sullivan himself with increasingly derogatory answers. The result was that their aggregate scores constituted what may be the lowest record in *ITLR* history.

Meyer took a brief break from his duties as *The Campus's* notorious sex columnist to take digs at Sullivan, derision dripping from his answers to questions about Sullivan's nicknames, first words and favorite sports teams. In between suppressing the urge to include sexual musings in his responses, Meyer picked up points in correctly identifying Sullivan's nickname (and adding a few

The Campus checks John Sullivan '10 for an interview			
	John Sullivan	Charlie Townsend	AJ Meyer
Do you have any nicknames?	Sully	Sullpuck (0)	Sully, Johnny No Neck, Turtle (1)
What is your jersey number?	9	9 (1)	Sullpuck9 - check the vanity plate (.5)
Which were your first words?	I don't really know.	"Turtle, turle." (0)	"I swear, I'm from Boston" (0)
What is your dream vacation?	Cancun with the boys.	Munchkinland, he's like 6'5 there. (0)	The Jersey shore, he just doesn't know it. (0)
What was your Oscar pick for Best Picture?	Stepbrothers.	"Short films by short people" (0)	Wimbledon or Righteous Kill (0)
Which is your favorite NHL team?	Boston Bruins	Boston Bruins (1)	Bruins (1)
If you did not play hockey you would play...	Bullpen catcher for the Redsox.	Yoga (tight shoulders). (0)	Any sport with no running. (1)
Final Score:		2	2.5

of his own), as well as his favorite NHL team. Still, he frequently forwent the competition in order to supply creative — and blatantly incorrect — answers.

Luckily for Meyer, Townsend followed

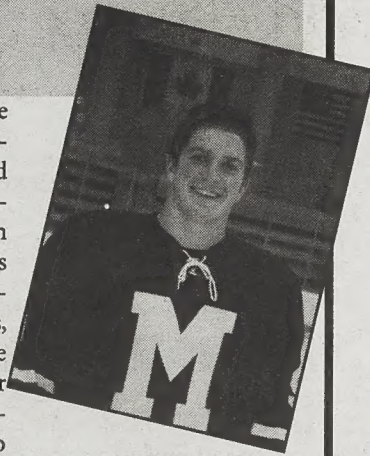
suit, independently deciding to shoulder the burden of taking Sullivan down a notch to crush his spirit with low-blow answers. Nothing was sacred, it seems, and no stone was left unturned in the quest to come up with the most

objectionable answers possible. Townsend was particularly intent on mocking his friend's physical features, and though he made it clear that his purpose was to outdo Meyer's cutting wit, he could not scrounge up a win, losing to Meyer with a half-point margin.

Though victorious, even Meyer could not run from Townsend's sharp tongue as he predicted a win in his favor, citing that "Meyer will try to be as sarcastic as possible, but I think people will read my answers more because they're sick of reading his terrible articles."

Whether or not his answers will provide the most laughs, Meyer was able to secure a win — how Sullivan will react to his answers, however, will prove a different question entirely.

—Emma Gardner, Sports Editor



PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	R	Comments
2/28 3/01	Men's basketball	Bowdoin Amherst	76-46 W 77-68 L	Men lock up their first NESCAC championship victory ever and secure a first-round bye and home court in the NCAAAs.
2/28	Women's hockey	Williams	3-1 W	The women's squad captures their third victory against Williams on the season in a convincing quarterfinal win.
2/28	Men's hockey	Hamilton	6-2 W	Men's hockey dominate offensively, outshooting Hamilton 37-19 as the team easily advances to the semis.
2/28	Skiing, Colby Carnival	Dartmouth, UVM, UNH	3rd Place	Panthers pull out a third-place finish in the Colby Carnival. The next contest for the team will be NCAAAs at Bates March 11-14.
3/01	Men's swimming & diving	NESCAC Championships	6th Place	The men take sixth at NESCACs. Despite an unremarkable team finish, Kevin O'Rourke '09 breaks three school records.

BY THE NUMBERS

1	Place earned by the Middlebury men's basketball team in the conference tournament ... NESCAC champions, baby!
77	Total number of points scored by Ben Rudin '09 in the tournament, a NESCAC record.
15	Points scored by Ryan Sharry '12 in the decisive game against Amherst, tying his career high.
1200	Total number of fans who packed Pepin Gymnasium both got Saturday's semifinal vs. Bowdoin and Sunday's championship game vs. Amherst.
0	Number of home losses for the team thus far, with one more home game likely remaining in the season.

Editors' Picks



Questions	Jeff Klein	Kevin Carpenter	Emma Gardner	Ben Fowler, Track and Field
Will the Middlebury men's basketball team hold its opponent to under 60 points in its NCAA second-round home game on Saturday?	YES With ADP — and the rest of the rowdy home crowd — going nuts, you think the Panthers won't rise to the occasion?	NO I'm expecting a high scoring game on both sides. But hey, I'm under .500 now so what do I know?	NO I agree with Kevin, but I think the guys will come out on top anyway.	YES No doubt ... Middlebury men's basketball is good money.
Over/under on goals scored by the Middlebury men's hockey team in its NESCAC semifinal game vs. Williams: 3.5	UNDER Three goals should be enough for the men to prevail against the Ephs.	OVER "Go big, or go home" — Johnny Tsunami	OVER Really, though, Kevin?	OVER Light the lamp, baby!
Over/under on goals scored by the Middlebury women's hockey team in its NESCAC semifinal game vs. Colby: 3.5	UNDER Ditto for the women.	OVER "When you woke up this morning, did you say to yourself, 'Today, I'm gonna talk,' or 'Today, I'm gonna skate!'" — Brink	OVER Kevin is really going crazy with the Disney Channel Original Movie quotes, huh? It's probably because he's a FEB.	OVER Lady Panthers crush it.
Possible Eastern Conference Finals preview: who wins between the Celtics and Cavs on Friday night?	CELTICS The Celtics will feel slighted that they're behind the Cavs in this week's ESPN Power Rankings, and will respond accordingly.	CAVS Oh! Raised in New England and Cleveland but I'm siding with the king since Garnett is injured and Marbury is crazy.	CAVS They can't go wrong with a player named Zydrunas Ilgauskas ...	CAVS "You look good, you play good." — LeBron James, cover of Feb. 2009 GQ.
Who wins between UConn and Pitt in a Big East showdown on Saturday afternoon?	PITT Kevin, it's on like Donkey Kong.	UCONN Psh. Jeff, please...	PITT Ben Fowler makes a good point — but what is this competition between Kevin and Jeff, and why am I not included??	PITT Already beat Conn a couple weeks ago (@ Conn). DeJuan Blair will be good to go. Home crowd gets a win.
Career Record	55-70 (.440)	11-13 (.458)	26-37 (.413)	8-16 (.333)



Tucker Donahoe '12 slots a pass to teammate Jamie McKenna '09 as the Continentals pursue.

Allie Needham

Magill '11 comes on strong at New Englands

By James Schwerdtman
STAFF WRITER

Katy Magill '11 paced the Panthers last weekend at the Open New England Championships at Boston University. The meet brought together the top track and field athletes from every collegiate division.

"This week was a little different," said Magill. "We were running against some really good teams like Southern Maine and UConn, and it was nice running against some really talented people."

Magill had a great performance at Division III New England's, in which she tied the school record in the 600-meter run while setting a new personal record. The sopho-

more followed it up last weekend with a time of 1:18 in the 500-meter run, breaking the school record and giving her a new personal record.

"Katy had a great race," said Grace Close '11, who was not in competition after suffering a stress fracture. "She was running against some really fast girls and did really well."

"[Katy] had a great weekend, and it was really great to see her break her personal record," said captain Kelley Coughlan '09.

After a long season, it is typical to see the times become more and more similar, but this was not the case over the weekend.

"I felt pretty good going into the weekend," said Magill, "but I guess I did a little

Men head to Amherst for NESCAC semifinals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

adjusted to this tactic well, with the backs communicating to effectively negate the effect of this "flier."

Middlebury also showed great chemistry on the ice — something that can possibly be attributed to the decision to shift the lines as groups of five rather than the traditional groups of three and two. In particular, the unit of McKenna, Curran, Suchoski, Drolet and Charlie Strauss '12 was very effective against the Continentals.

"I think that the group of five that I am on has been effective because we all keep it simple," said McKenna. "We all just know what we have to do, and after playing with each other for a couple of days in a row have begun to really click. I think the same can be said for the other groups as well."

One point of interest for fans over the past few weeks has been the ongoing battle between Doug Raeder '09 and John Yanchek

'12 for time between the pipes. While it is a "problem" that any coach would love to have, making the decision between these two goaltenders is a weekly struggle for Coach Bill Beaney.

This weekend it was Raeder who got the call and he answered it admirably — making 17 saves on 19 shots including a gem in the first period when he thwarted a Hamilton attempt by the blade of his skate while sprawling across the crease. While his play probably earned him the nod for next weekend, the Panthers are content in the knowledge that they have two top-flight goaltenders on their roster.

If Middlebury can resolve the mental lapses like the one during the second period on Saturday that have plagued the team all year, look for the men to emerge from the NESCAC Final Four in prime position to make some noise during the NCAA tournament.

better than expected."

While Magill had a more than impressive day, the rest of the team also performed very well. The Panthers only had a small team at the meet this weekend, with the regular season coming to a close a few weeks ago.

For the men, Adam Dede '12 and Michael Schmidt qualified for the meet, with Dede traveling to Boston to compete in the pole vault.

The women sent a larger group of girls although some of the core distance runners, including Close, were not present at the meet, despite qualifying. Becca Fanning '12 ran the 500-meter with Magill and came in with a very solid time of 1:19. Kaitlynn Saldanha '11, who has been having a very strong season and provisionally qualified for nationals in the 600-meter run, came in at 2:15 in the 800-meter run, finishing in the top 10. Jen

Brenes '09 and Mia Martinez '12 both had solid performances in the 55-meter hurdles, with times of 8.68 and 9.16 seconds, respectively.

The women's distance medley had a personal record on the day, coming in 10 seconds faster than their previous time with a finish of 12:25. This finish gave them eighth-place against a tough field and gave the Panthers their sole point for the meet.

From here, the team continues to look to the spring season and the spring trip to San Diego, where the Panthers kick off competition.

"Everyone is doing really well at this point," said Magill. "We're training really well and our freshmen look really strong."

Next weekend are the ECAC's, and the Panthers will be sending Dede, Coughlan, and Saldanha to compete.

Panthers pumped to play in first-ever home NCAA game among raucous Panther faithful

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

NESCAC Championship — hanging in the balance, Middlebury went on an 8-0 run to establish a 73-65 lead on a Rudin jumper with 1:27 left.

The Lord Jeffs drew to within five, but that was as close as they would get, as the Panthers would not be denied their first NESCAC Championship — not on this day, not in front of this home crowd. When the final buzzer sounded, with the scoreboard reading Middlebury 77, Amherst 68, students stormed the court and elatedly jumped up and down with the rest of the team at center court.

After the game, the Panthers basked in the euphoria of being champions. Players and their families hugged one another, numerous pictures were taken to capture the priceless scene and, finally, the team participated in the ceremonious cutting down of the nets. One by one, each player ascended the ladder beneath the basket and cut off a portion of the net — and with it, a piece of history. When Coach Brown stepped up and snipped off the final piece of twine, the players started chanting, "COACH OF THE YEAR! COACH OF THE YEAR!" This was a moment that the entire team would treasure forever.

Yet this latest achievement is especially gratifying for the four seniors who have remained steadfast in their commitment to elevating the Middlebury basketball program to prominence.

"It has been such an honor to be a part of this team," said Smith. "We're such a close group of friends that it makes it easy to trust one another on the court. I think that's so important: one family devoted to one goal. My hope is that this is just the beginning of a successful basketball tradition at Middlebury

— that people will look back at this season and say, 'That was the team that started it all.'"

"It is an unbelievable feeling to win this championship and I will cherish it forever," Dudley concurred.

"As a senior, it's been great to become more successful as a team each year," said Matt Westman '09. "One of the most memorable moments of the season will certainly be the atmosphere in Pepin during the NESCAC tournament and the unprecedented support and enthusiasm from students, faculty, and the greater Middlebury basketball community."

Rudin, who earned NESCAC Player of the Week for his outstanding efforts against Bowdoin and Amherst, was ecstatic for everyone involved in bringing a championship to the Middlebury basketball program.

"Winning the NESCAC championship was one of the most gratifying, memorable and special feelings of my life," he said. "While the victory was obviously a large reason for these emotions, it was more that I was able to share this moment with the three other seniors and the rest of team. The hard work that we have put into basketball

since stepping foot onto campus all paid off with the sounding of that buzzer. It's truly an honor to bring Middlebury its first ever men's basketball NESCAC championship and to do it with the guys on this team."

For the underclassmen, too, this was a feeling of utter gratification. "Being part of this team has been an amazing experience," said Jamal Davis '11. "I've never won a championship before and it feels great to win one with this team."

"The whole experience has been surreal," maintained Sharry, a first-year who was nothing short of outstanding in the decisive game

against Amherst. "To win the NESCAC Championship as a first-year, when it had never been done before in school history, is beyond belief. I am especially happy for the seniors who, after coming in last in the league their freshman year, created a winning atmosphere for Middlebury basketball that led to their NESCAC Championship."

It's hard to believe after such an emotional achievement, but Middlebury's run is not over yet. On Monday afternoon, the Panthers found out they had received a first-round bye in the NCAA Division III tournament. Even better, the team will once more have the benefit of the Middlebury home crowd advantage, as it will host the winner of St. Joseph's and Bridgewater State this Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

With the way the Panthers have been rolling, they are eager to start the tournament and hopefully advance to face some of the best D-III teams in the nation.

"This season has been so much fun, we don't want it to end," said Smith. "I think we're playing our best basketball at the right time. Now it's just a matter of taking one game at a time and continuing to get better. I like to think we're starting a new season this weekend."



Allie Needham

The Panthers pose with Middlebury's first-ever NESCAC Championship plaque on Sunday.

Skiers finish third at Colby Carnival

By Martin Breu
STAFF WRITER

Dartmouth College continued to prove its competitive edge this past weekend, winning the Colby Carnival to go six-for-six in college carnivals this winter. Though Middlebury held a slim lead over UVM going into the second day of races, the Panthers eventually slipped to finish third behind the Catamounts, repeating the results of the Middlebury Carnival two weeks ago.

The standout performances of the weekend came on Saturday, when Simi Hamilton '09 and Elise Moody-Roberts '12 took the individual wins in the men's and women's 20/15km Nordic races.

Friday, the first day of competition, saw rapidly warming temperatures and periods of rain that made the conditions difficult for waxing skis. While the alpine women and men raced a slalom course, due to high wind and harsh conditions, the normally two-run event was shortened to just one run. Dartmouth dominated the women's slalom with Courtney Hammond taking first, followed by her teammates Christine Roberts and Hayley Jones in second and fourth, respectively. Natasha Woodworth '11 had a great race to break up the Dartmouth women and lead the Panthers with a third place finish. Co-captain Tucker Burton '09 also raced well and skied into seventh place.

The men's race proved less successful for the Panthers. While Sean McNamara of UNH captured first, Middlebury suffered setbacks as both co-captain Andrew Wagner '09 and Bobby Poehling '11 crashed and as a result saw significantly slower times. Jonathan Hunter '10 had the best Middlebury finish for the men in 14th place. The women's team finished in second behind Dartmouth, while the men were ninth.

Over on the nordic trails, the warm and variable weather was playing havoc with the kick waxing of skis (the sticky, temperature-sensitive wax that grips the snow allows the skiers to ski up hills). Dartmouth, however, remained unfazed by the tough conditions, placing six skiers in the top 10 of the women's race and five in the top 10 of the men's race as skiers Rosie Brennan and Glenn Randall took individual wins for the Big Green.

Robyn Anderson '10 had another great race and in seventh place was the top Panther finisher in the women's race; Moody-Roberts was right behind Anderson in eighth place. Hamilton led the Panther men with a strong second-place finish, and was followed by Patrick Johnson '11 in sixth and Chase Marston '12 in an impressive seventh. The Nordic women's efforts were rewarded with a third-place team score, while the men were even better in second.

The weather changed overnight so that when the skiers woke up for the second day of racing on Saturday the trails were covered with ice. The conditions at Sugarloaf were too dangerous to hold the alpine races, which were ultimately postponed to Sunday. The nordic racers forged ahead with the 15/20km mass-start skate races held on super fast, icy trails. While Dartmouth again dominated the races, Moody-Roberts and Hamilton skied strongly to take the individual wins over the Big Green skiers.

Nordic coach Andrew Gardner attributed Moody-Roberts's victory to "heart," noting that "few people have more [heart] than Elise does."

Following Moody-Roberts for the Panthers was Kate Barton '09 in 11th place, putting her just out of reach of a spot at the NCAA championships this March. Patrick Johnson '11 was the first Middlebury finisher behind Hamilton in tenth, with Tim Reynolds '09 in 18th, who also just barely missed making NCAAs. These impressive performances by the nordic teams placed the Panthers in second for both men's and women's team scores.

The alpine team was back in action on

Saturday after a day's pause to allow for more grooming. Courtney Hammond of Dartmouth picked up where she left off two days prior, taking first in the Giant Slalom race. David Donaldson of UVM won the men's race in his third GS win of the year. The Panther women were remarkably similar in their placings, but were all off the winning places with Nicole Dvorak '11 in 13th, Woodworth in 14th, Leah McLaughry '10 in 16th and Mattie Ford '09 in 17th. Besides the ever-consistent Billy Wagner '09 in seventh place, the Panther men also struggled.

"The girls and guys were racing to preserve NCAA spots and did not produce respectable team scores," said alpine coach Stever Bartlett. The Middlebury women finished fourth in the GS, while the men were seventh. The Panthers racing in the NCAAs will be Ford, Dvorak and Woodworth for women, and Wagner and Poehling for the men.

Up next for the Panthers are the NCAA Championships, hosted by Bates College on March 11-14. The four days of competition are likely to be intense, and will hopefully produce impressive performances from the Panthers.

O'Rourke '09 performs, but Panthers fail to place in NCAA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

The relay teams competed particularly well. The 400-yard medley relay team, comprised of Woods, O'Rourke, Matt Vukich '11 and Schuyler Beeman '10, finished in fifth place with a time of 3:25.54. The 200-yard freestyle relay team, comprised of Beeman, O'Rourke, Jay Li '11 and Nick Daly '12, erased a 10-year-old school record by more than half a second.

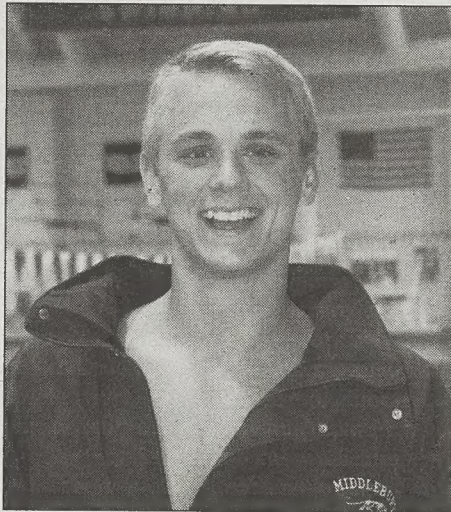
The same swimmers also competed in the 400-yard freestyle relay, which had a jaw-dropping result. The relay team entered the meet seeded in fifth place with a time of 3:16 and managed to surprise everyone in the pool by dropping 12 seconds and seizing second place.

Beeman also recorded an impressive individual accomplishment, as he swam into fifth place in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 20.74.

O'Rourke had an incredible individual performance in his 200-yard freestyle, finishing in second place with a time of 1:38.22 in the preliminary race. He broke a 13-year-old NESCAC conference record, as well as the meet and Wesleyan pool record, and currently holds the fourth fastest time in the country for the 200-yard freestyle

event. O'Rourke also took fifth place in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:31.36, breaking the school-best time. His striking performance continued as he swam into second place in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 45.30.

From here, as the few NCAA qualifiers continue to train in anticipation of the championship meet happening March 17-21, the rest of the team will recover from the strenuous season.



File Photo
Kevin O'Rourke '09 dominated this weekend.

sportsbriefs

Rudin captures NESCAC Player of the Week — again

It is hard to play favorites when considering all the valuable assets to this year's NESCAC championship-winning men's basketball team, but Ben Rudin '09 is certainly one of the team's undisputed leaders.

Rudin was named the NESCAC Player of the Week for the third time this season on the heels of an amazing performance this past weekend. The senior point guard piled up impressive statistics in all three major categories, averaging 24.0 points, 6.5 rebounds and 4.5 assists on the weekend.

In Saturday's semifinal contest against Bowdoin, Rudin had a career-high 30 points, only 16 fewer than the entire Bowdoin team scored in the blowout victory for the Panthers.

Against Amherst, Rudin displayed another solid performance, scoring 18 points and grabbing nine rebounds, both of which led the Panthers. In the game, he also established an all-time conference record with 77 points in the NESCAC tournament.

The Panthers look to extend their storybook season when they take on the winner of St. Joseph's College of Maine and Bridgewater State in a home game on Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

— Jeff Klein, Sports Editor

Women's cross country team honored with scholar award

The Middlebury women's cross country team was named the USTFCCA Division III Scholar Team of the Year on March 3. The team is awarded this honor after having won the 2008 Division III Cross Country title.

The Panthers were named to the USTFCCA All-Academic team in 2006 and 2007. The entire roster is factored into the grade point average (GPA) scoring, making the honor all the more impressive. The women maintained a cumulative 3.480 GPA in the fall. The team tops the list of 156 Division III women's programs that received honors this year, compared to 141 schools in 2007.

Nine NESCAC schools in total were represented on the list.

In order for a team to be considered for the USTFCCA honors, the team must have accrued a team score high enough to compete at an NCAA Regional meet while also maintaining a minimum 3.10 cumulative GPA.

Despite Bluffton University having the highest overall GPA (3.859), it was the national champion Middlebury Panthers who were awarded with the highest honor.

— Kevin Carpenter, Sports Editor

Illig earns NESCAC Coach of the Year honors for squash

John Illig wastes no time when it comes to making his mark on the Middlebury squash program. In his second year as head coach of both the men's and women's teams, Illig was named NESCAC Coach of the Year after leading the women to a 13th place finish and a 19-8 record on the season — their best in school history.

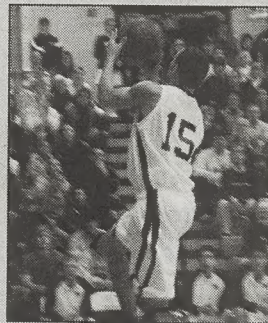
Illig is a veteran of squash in the NESCAC league, having served 11 seasons as head coach at Bates and five years at Colby before that. His Coach of the Year award joins numerous accolades on his resume, which include being named the U.S. Olympic Developmental Squash Coach of the Year in 2000 and President of the Women's College Squash Association from 2000-2002.

In preparing his players to face historically dominant varsity teams such as Trinity and UPenn this season, Illig emphasized the importance of competition at a high level and the value of learning from one's opponents, despite the outcome of the match. Both his unwavering support for the program and the impressive results he garnered this season demonstrate that Illig has what it takes to lead Middlebury squash to many future successes.

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	2/26	Team	Carpenter's Comments
1	1	Men's b-ball (24-3)	First NESCAC championship for the men. Fan support was overwhelming. Best chant goes to the guy yelling "Shoot it!" before an Amherst inbounds pass.
2	5	Women's hockey (17-3-4)	Women dominate Williams in offensive production. Why are the women #2 and the men #3? I flipped a coin. Heads won.
3	6	Men's hockey (18-6-1)	Men's team ravaged the Continentals, bringing the all-time series to 80-30-2. Once again, sorry guys.
4	3	Skiing	I was happy to see the Panthers in second place on Saturday but they dropped to third by the end of the contest. Tsk tsk. Redemption comes soon at NCAAs.
5	4	Swimming & diving	Sixth place for the Panthers but Kevin O'Rourke '09 came out as a champion, capturing three school records at NESCACs.
6	2	Squash	Congratulations to the competitors at individual nationals and to coach John Illig on being named NESCAC Coach of the year!
7	7	Indoor Track & Field	I hope this indoor/scoreless business is finished. Get outside already and compete against NESCAC teams.
8	—	Lacrosse	We are lacking a variety of teams competing this week. If you want on the 'Great Eight,' you have to earn it from now on.



Allie Needham

Kyle Dudley '09 and the Panthers won their first NESCAC Championship in program history on Sunday, leaving no doubt as to the team's ranking atop this week's Great Eight.

Yes they did: Men's b-ball wins championship

Panthers destroy Bowdoin, outlast Amherst en route to first NESCAC title

By Jeff Klein
SPORTS EDITOR

As the last 15 seconds ticked off the clock and Amherst backed off, no longer looking to foul, the Panthers started to hug each other and jump up and down, caught up in a moment of pure joy. They looked toward the crowd — the crazed student section that had exhausted every vocal chord supporting them throughout this amazing run — and put their arms up in a gesture of triumph. Was this really about to happen?

The buzzer sounded. Apparently, the answer was yes.



The team celebrates after a phenomenal performance against Amherst.

Riding the momentum of a tremendous home court advantage, the men's basketball team easily dispatched Bowdoin in the semifinals before outlasting Amherst by a score of 77-68 to win its first-ever NESCAC Championship.

"We couldn't be happier about our first NESCAC Championship," said Aaron Smith '09. "It has been amazing to see how far the program has come in just four years. Everyone on this team, the players and coaches, just completely dedicated themselves to winning."

Bowdoin provided little resistance for the Panthers in the semi-

final matchup on Saturday. Knowing that a NESCAC Championship birth was on the line, each team appeared jittery in the early going, misfiring on shots and turning the ball over.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Bowdoin	46
Middlebury	76

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Amherst	68
Middlebury	77

As a result, the game remained 6-5 Middlebury — a virtual stalemate — for what seemed like an eternity.

Eventually, though, the Panthers got it going and went on one of their patented runs. Sparked by threes from Kyle Dudley '09 and Tim Edwards '09.5, Middlebury scored 10 unanswered points with 5:35 remaining in the first half to take a commanding 29-14 advantage.

The Panthers went into the half with a 30-18 lead, paced by Ben Rudin's '09 15 points.

Middlebury provided the knockout punch shortly after intermission, as the team opened the second half hitting a scorching 13 out of 15 shots, which established a nearly insurmountable 29-point lead.

Bowdoin answered with a 9-0 run, closing within 20 points with 7:37 remaining. Yet it was simply

not enough for the Polar Bears, who found that there would be no repeat NESCAC tournament upset from last year.

The final 76-46 margin of victory was the Panthers' fourth largest of the season. Still, they knew it would be a moot point if they did not defeat Amherst, which had beaten Williams in the other semifinal matchup the following day.

Despite the early start time of noon (for college students, anyway), the Middlebury faithful packed the bleachers and prepared to do their part to propel the Panthers to championship status.

Amherst, though, had other ideas, as the Lord Jeffs raced out to an early 18-9 lead before Head Coach Jeff Brown called a timeout to settle down his squad.

Middlebury then began to slowly chip away at the lead. A pair of baskets by Ryan Sharry '12 narrowed the deficit to three. After an Amherst three-pointer, the Panthers asserted themselves with a 7-0 run to take a 24-23 lead, sending the blue-and-white decked crowd into a frenzy.

Having found its rhythm, Middlebury started playing like the team that had earned a school-record 23 wins on the season. An 8-0 spurt at the 4:13 mark of the first half increased the Panthers' lead to 42-32. However, Amherst respond-



Ben Rudin '09 triumphantly takes down the net after the Panthers' monumental victory.

ed with a small run of its own, and Middlebury had to settle for a five-point advantage at the half.

Middlebury again seized the upper hand in the beginning of the second half, as a tip-in by Smith restored the Panther lead to 10. However, Amherst showed why it has consistently been one of the elite teams in the NESCAC. Taking advantage of four Middlebury turnovers, the Lord Jeffs went on a 10-0 run to take a 55-54 lead with 9:42 left in the game.

The game see-sawed back and forth for the next few minutes, and the contest was deadlocked at 65 with just over four minutes remaining. With the game — and a

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22

Men's hockey ousts Hamilton

By Peter Baumann
OPINIONS EDITOR

The Middlebury men's hockey team defeated the Hamilton College Continentals for the second time in as many weeks on Saturday, Feb. 28, taking the NESCAC quarterfinal by a score of 6-2. With the win, the Panthers advance to take on Williams College on March 6, while the host Amherst Lord Jeffs face defending champion Trinity College in the other semifinal.

The Panthers struck early on Saturday against the Continentals with Martin Drolet '12 firing the puck through Hamilton goaltender Ian Stearns' five-hole five minutes into the contest. Drolet was able to break in alone due to a fantastic play by Bryan Curran '11, who dug the puck out of his own corner and fired it up-ice to his teammate, who had slipped in behind the Hamilton defense.

The Continentals did not record their first shot until almost seven minutes into the contest, at which point Middlebury already led 2-0, but they made the most of it as Joe Buicko slammed home a rebound to cut the Middlebury lead to one.

Middlebury continued its torrid first period soon thereafter, though, with Ken Suchoski '11 scoring to bring the margin back up to two. The score would remain 3-1 through the end of the period. The Panther domi-

nated the frame, out-shooting the Continentals 12-3.

Despite playing a somewhat lackluster second period, the Panthers were able to extend their lead to 4-1 after Jamie McKenna '09 twisted a Hamilton defender around while driving to the net and tapped home a perfect feed from Suchoski. Hamilton would later score to bring the margin back to two goals, but would never narrow the gap further. Third period tallies from Drolet — his team leading 18th of the year — and Nerback '12 provided the final margin.

The game was somewhat indicative of Middlebury's season, with the Panthers dominating play during the first and third periods while inexplicably easing up during the second.

"The second period was pretty bad," said McKenna. "We lost almost every puck, we had way too many turnovers ... that is something that could cost us a game and ultimately our season. That is something we have to change and have to change now if we want to make it past NESCACs."

The second period aside, Middlebury did provide many reasons for why it should be considered a strong player on both the regional and national stages. Playing on Middlebury's oversized sheet of ice, the Continentals tried to take advantage of the Panthers' propensity to give up odd-man rushes by flying a winger in transition. Middlebury

SEE MEN, PAGE 22



The Panthers prepare to face off against the Continentals at Kenyon Arena.

Men's swimming and diving finishes sixth

By Molly West
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's swimming and diving team took sixth place with 781 points at this past weekend's NESCAC Championship at Wesleyan University. Williams, Tufts and Amherst finished in 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Support from many Middlebury swimming alumni and family members of the swimmers and divers increased the excitement of the entire meet.

Although the competition was intense, the friendly NESCAC aura resonated throughout the weekend, and was highlighted when the teams and spectators danced a little jig to Andy Collins' '12 bagpipes on Sunday evening prior to the finals.

The men's team members were entirely supportive of one another and truly made the season a genuine team experience.

Kevin O'Rourke '09 mentioned that "the guys rallied around each other and we had almost every single guy accomplish

lifetime bests."

The swimming competition this year was unusually tough, but Middlebury grasped hold of the challenge and many individuals broke school, pool and personal records.

Kevin Glatt '11 impressively dropped seconds off of his 100- and 200-yard butterfly time. Senior Zach Woods placed 3rd in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:51.32, setting a school record which qualified him for the NCAA Championship meet in a couple of weeks. But he did not stop competing there. He also stole 8th place in the 50-yard backstroke, and fifth place in the 100-yard backstroke.

Two rookie swimmers, Nick Daly '12 and Andy Collins '12 both had particularly strong performances. Daly "had an incredible night swim in his 100 free," according to O'Rourke, and Collins swam a lifetime best in his 1650-yard freestyle, dropping 50 seconds off his time.

SEE O'ROURKE, PAGE 23

this week in sports

Women's Hockey
Women's team gets big win over Williams, moves on to semifinals, page 20.



games to watch
Men's basketball NCAA tourney, March 7 at 7 p.m.
Men's lacrosse vs. Bates, March 7 at 1 p.m.



Inside the Locker Room:
John Sullivan
Who knows the junior forward better? page 21.